HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Model W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.,
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

The Bombay Chronicle

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Model W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA IN 1913.

VOL. XV. NO. 51— BOMBAY TUESDAY MARCH 1 1927 ONE ANNA

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE

SHIPPING

P. & O. BRITISH INDIA

(Incorporated in England.)

MAIL & PASSENGERS SERVICE.

P. and O. SAILINGS to PLYMOUTH AND LONDON CALLING AT MARSEILLES.

All passengers are required to be in possession of passports.

Date.	Steamers.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons.
1927			
5 Mar.	NALDERA x		15,993
12 ,,	RANPURA ..		16,585
19 ,,	RAZMAK ‡ †		10,602
23 ,,	CHINAq ..		7,952
26	KAISAR-I-HIND ..		11,430
2 Apr.	NARKUNDAx		16,227
9 ,,	KANCHI ..		16,650
16 ,,	RAZMAK† ..		10,602
23 ,,	RAJPUTANA		16,568
30 ,,	MOOLTANx:		20,847
7 May	RAWAL.. PINDI		16,619
14 ,,	RAZMAK ..	MALWA* ..	10,940
21 ,,	RANPURA ..		16,585
28 ,,	DELTA ..	MALOJA x ..	20,837
4 June	KAISAR-I-HIND ..		11,430
11 ,,	RAZMAK ..	MOREA* ..	10,918
18 ,,	CHINA ..		7,952
25 ,,	RAZMAK ..	NALDERAx ..	15,993
2 July	RAJPUTANA.		16,568
9 ,,	RAZMAK ..	MANTUA* ..	10,902
16 ,,	MALWA ..		10 940
23 ,,	RAZMAK ..	MONGOLIA x ..	16 504
30 ,,	RANPURA x ..		16,585

X Through steamers from Australia have limited accommodation for passengers from India.

* Through steamers from China have Limited accommodation for passengers from India.

†Terminates voyage at Marseilles.

‡ First Class Passengers only.

qExtra Steamer at following reduced rates :—

1st Saloon to London £80, £70 & £60.
,, to Marseilles £72, £62 & £56

2nd Saloon to London £54, & £52,
to Marseilles £50 & £48,

The difference in Passage Rates is according to the position of the Cabins.

Very special berthing arrangements have been made to ensure the comfort of Passengers proceeding by the "China."

SPECIAL OFF SEASON RETURN TICKETS.

First Saloon Return Tickets at Special Reduced Rates will be issued for any Mail Steamer during the period commencing from Bombay with the sailing of the S.S. "KAISAR-I-HIND" on the 4th June 1927 and terminating with the steamer due in Bombay on the 23rd September. The accommodation allotted will be the best available in the First Saloon at the time of application. The fares will be as follows:—

To London and back by sea £105
To London and back via Marseilles including P. and O. Special Train Across France in both directions £120
To Marseilles and back £100

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS.
Bombay to Port Said and Plymouth.

Date about,	Steamers.	Tons.
1927		
10th March	DUMANA ..	8,127
24th ,,	MANDALA ..	8,246
14th April	MARGHA ..	8,258
12th May	DOMALA ..	8,441

On most of the P. & O. Mail steamers and on the B.I. Home Line Steamers Cots for Infants are available at a charge of £3 for the voyage. Application for these Cots should be made well in advance.

P. & O. SAILINGS TO COLOMBO, STRAITS-CHINA, JAPAN and AUSTRALIA.

1st Mar '27	PERIM ..	Straits & Japan
1st ,,	ALIPORE ..	Straits & Japan
3rd ,,	GOGRA ..	For Shanghai
	MOOLTAN ..	At Colombo for Australia
4th ,,	DEVANHA ..	China & Japan.
4th ,,	TATEISHI MARU	For Japan.
15th ,,	DELTA ..	China & Japan
	COMORIN ..	At Colombo for Australia
29th ,,	NELLORE ..	China & Japan
31st ,,	MALOJA ..	For Colombo & Australia
12th April	NYANZA ..	China & Japan
	MOLDAVIA ..	At Colombo for Australia

SHIPPING

N. Y. K. LINE

SINGAPORE CHINA & JAPAN

Steamers.	Tons.	Arrival.	Departure
Rangoon Maru	5059	13 Feb.	24 Feb.
Tomi Maru	5444	17 ,,	2 Mar.
Ryujin Maru	6243	21 ,,	3 ,,
*Awa Maru	6028	28 ,,	12 ,,
Seiyo Maru	6550	12 ,,	2 ,,
Hyeisan Maru	4614	15 ,,	26 ,,
xTokushima M.	5976	18 ,,	23 ,,
Hankow Maru	4104	23 ,,	6 Apr

x* For Karachi
* Passenger Steamers.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

Canada Building, Hornby Road, Bombay
Phone No. 20279. Telegrams: "Yusen"

OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA
O.S.K. LINE

REGULAR SERVICE TO JAPAN via SINGAPORE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI

Steamer.	Arrival.	Departure.
Koryu Maru	9th Feb. 1927	18th Feb. 1927
Manshu Maru	17th ,, ,,	26th ,, ,,
Celebes Maru	20th ,, ,,	3rd March ,,
*Borneo Maru	25th ,, ,,	10th ,, ,,
Indo Maru	6th March ,,	15th ,, ,,
Shiraha Maru	14th ,, ,,	21st ,, ,,
Heinan Maru	14 ,, ,,	25th ,, ,,
Shinnoh Maru	25th ,, ,,	5th April ,,

*Calls at Colombo.

For Particulars apply to :—
T. OHARA, Manager,
Phone No. 22150, Telegrams : "SHOSEN,"
P. O. Box No. 355.
Taj Building, Hornby Road, Bombay.

Bombay Widows' Pension Fund, Ltd.

ESTABLISHED 1876.
NO. 35, MEDOWS STREET,
Behind Currency Bank.
FUNDED CAPITAL RS. 2,72,700.

Investments in Government and Approved Securities only.

Perfect Economy in management. The supervision as to Rates, Mortality, Investigation and Valuation was entrusted to an experienced European Actuary.

The object is to make provisions for the widows of subscribers to a monthly pension from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50 without distinction of caste or creed. Rates of subscription are very moderate. 30 per cent. surrender value in case the wife pre-deceased. Twelve months' grace if occupation is lost.

25 per cent. Commission to Canvassers on First 12 months' subscription.

For details apply for a Copy of Rules to:
GAJANAN SADANAND DESAI,
Secretary and Treasurer.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS
TO AFRICA, KARACHI, PERSIAN GULF, TUTICORIN, COLOMBO, MADRAS, CALCUTTA & RANGOON.

1927			
2nd March	BARDOA ..	Busreh via Karachi & Persian Gulf Ports.
2nd ,,	KARAGOLA ..	East & S. Africa.
4th ,,	CHAKLA ..	Busreh via Karachi
5th or 6th ,,	VITA ..	Karachi via Kathiawar ports.

There will be sailings for Karachi on Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays every week. Local passengers for Karachi can only proceed by the Friday sailings when accommodation is not required for passengers ex the P. and O. Mail steamer or through passengers to Busreh.

Terms and Rates of Freights and Passage may be arranged with
MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.,
Ballard Road, Fort, Bombay

BANKING

Bank of Baroda Ltd

Under the patronage of and largely supported by the Government of H. H. the Maharaja Gaekwar.
(Registered under the Baroda Companies Act III of 1897.)
Capital Subscribed ..... Rs. 60,00,000
Capital Called-up ..... Rs. 30,00,000
Reserved Fund ..... Rs. 22,50,000

HEAD OFFICE:
MANDVI, BARODA.
BRANCHES:
Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Navsari, Mehsana Surat, Bombay, Dabhoi, Petlad, Patan Sidhpur, Amreli, Kalol, Dwarka, Kadi and Karjan.

DIRECTORS:
Sir Lalubhai Samaldas, Kt., C.I.E., (Chairman).
Raj Ratna Sheth Maganbhai P. Haribhakti (Nagar Sheth, Baroda).
Sheth Durgaprasad Shambhuprasad Laskari (Mill Agent, Ahmedabad).
Bhaskarrao V. Mehta, Esq., M.A. LL.B.
Maganlal H. Kantavala, Esq., M.A. (Agent), The Maharaja Mills Co. Ltd., Baroda).
Mr. G. K. Ambegaonker, B.A., Chief Acott and Auditor Khangi Dept., Baroda State.
Nawroji B. Saklatwala, C.I.E., (Tata Sons Ltd., Bombay).

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.
Interest allowed on daily balance from Rs. 300 to Rs. 1,00,000 at the rate of Rs. 2½ per cent. per annum from 1st January to 30th June and at 2 per cent. from 1st July to 31st December and on sums over Rs. 1,00,000 by special arrangement. No interest which does not come to Rs. 3 per half year will be allowed.

FIXED DEPOSITS.
Received for long or short periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

LOANS, OVERDRAFTS AND CASH CREDITS.
The Bank grants accommodation on term to be arranged against approved securities.
The Bank undertakes on behalf of its constituents the safe custody of Shares and Securities and the collection of dividends and interest thereon. It also undertakes the sale and purchase of Government Paper and all description of Stock at moderate charges particulars of which may be learnt on application.

SAVINGS BANK.
Deposits received and interest allowed at 3½ per cent. per annum.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.
Sums of Rs. 300 and over accepted at 4 per cent., by transfers from Savings Bank accounts subject to three months' notice of withdrawal Rules on application.

C. E. RANDLE,
General Manager.

The Bombay Chronicle

BUSINESS NOTICE.

BUSINESS communications of every kind (advertisements, changes of address, etc.) should be addressed to the MANAGER. Advertisements intended for insertion in the next day's paper must reach the office not later than 5 p. m.

ALL REMITTANCES should be made payable to the "Bombay Chronicle" and cheques crossed.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIBERS whose copies of the "Bombay Chronicle" are delayed in delivery will facilitate enquiry into the cause of the irregularity by noting the date of the paper on the wrapper, and sending it to the Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily Edition.	Local	Mofussil.
1 Year	.. Rs. 20	Rs. 25
6 Months	.. Rs. 10	Rs. 12-8
3 Months	.. Rs. 5	Rs. 6-4
1 Month	.. Rs. 1-14	Rs. 2-4

Subscription to Foreign Countries
Rs. 50 per year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

SUNDAY EDITION

	Local.	Mofussil.	Foreign
Yearly	Rs. 3/8	Rs. 4	Rs. 7

PAYMENTS STRICTLY IN ADVANCE

The Sunday Edition must be subscribed for not less than one year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

INSURANCE

Western India Life Insurance Co, Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:—Satara City.
PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.

Valuation.	Year.	Surplus disclosed.
First	1917	Rs 11,532
Second	1922	Rs 27,737
Third	1923	Rs 1,16,544

No other Company started within 25 years could show equal results at the same age.
Excellent opportunity for reliable energetic men of position and ability to represent the Company.
For agency and other particulars please apply to :—
THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
Satara City.

NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY.

BANKERS.
Nederlandsche Handel—Maatschappy.
(Incorporated in Holland).
Established by Royal Charter 1877.
Fully paid up Capital ..... F 80,000,000
£ 6,666,666
Reserve Fund ..... F 43,777,341
£ 3,648,111
Head Office at AMSTERDAM.
(Holland).
Agencies at ROTTERDAM & THE HAGUE.
Head Agency at BATAVIA.
BRANCHES:

Dutch East Indies:—		
Bandjermasin	Macassar	Semarang
Bandoeng	Medan	Sibolga
Cheribon	Padang	Sourabaya
Djember	Palembang	Solo
Djocja	Pekalongan	Tegal
Kota Radja	Pontianak	Tjilatjap
		Weltevreden

Straits Settlements:—Singapore, Penang.
British India:—Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon.
Hedjaz:—Jeddah.
Japan:—Kobe.
China:—Hongkong, Shanghai.
London Bankers.—The National Provincial Bank Ltd.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on daily balance up to Rs. 100,000. If the accrued interest for six months does not amount to Rs. 10 no interest will be allowed.
FIXED DEPOSITS received and interest allowed on terms to be ascertained on application.
LETTERS OF CREDIT DRAFTS issued on the above Agencies the principal Continental places, South Africa, America, and Australia.
Every description of Banking, Exchange and Bullion business transacted.
BOMBAY OFFICE.—82, Esplanade Road.
A. P. HOOGENSTEYN,
Agent.

TO SECURE

Growth of perfect health, purity of body and nobleness of soul, please go through our booklet

"BRAHMA CHARYA"

(Continence)

Sent gratis and post free on writing to:

Atank Nigrah Pharmacy,
JAMNAGAR.

EYE TROUBLES

of any kind—Iritis, Stye, Watery Eye, Corneal Ulcer, redness, etc. Even Cataract Glaucoma Granular lid cured without knife by our Cocoanut Brand 'Lotus Honey'—genuine and purest in market. Cure guaranteed. Dram Rs. 2-8 2 Drams Rs. 4. Ask free particulars to :—
NEW FORMULA Co., Kandi, Bengal.
Tel: "Ulcer," Kandi.
Agent: A. T. GIDVANI 2 Gungoo St. KARACHI.

INSURANCE

THE UNIVERSAL

FIRE & GENERAL

INSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd.

(INCORPORATED IN INDIA)

FIRE, MARINE, MOTOR CAR

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

UNIVERSAL BUILDING,
CAWASJI PATEL STREET, FORT, BOMBAY

Managing Agents:

M. KANJI & Co

RESPECTABLE AND INFLUENTIAL AGENTS WANTED FOR UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

INDIA PROVIDENT Co., LTD.

SPLENDID BONUS 25 % of the premium refunded as Bonus.
Funds about Rs. 1 LACS.

The Safest Office for Life Insurance for the poor. Premium Re. 1 or 8 as. per month. Active and honest agents required on liberal remuneration. Apply at once to the SECRETARY, 29, Grey Street, CALCUTTA; or to

Messrs. R. M. DIVADKAR & Co., Chief Agents, Esoof Building, D'Lima Street, Mazagon, Bombay

VULCAN INSURANCE Co., Ltd

(Incorporated in India.)

Fire, Marine, Motor Car and Workman's Compensation Insurance transacted.

Chairman—Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart.
Chief Agents—Messrs. Currimbhoy Ebrahim & Son, Ltd.
Head Office—Jehangir Wadia Building, Esplanade Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED IN UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

BOMBAY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

(Established 1908.)

A FIRST CLASS INDIAN COMPANY TO INSURE ONE'S LIFE IN.

Please compare our rates and conditions before insuring elsewhere.

S. B. CARDMASTER, Manager.
Apollo Street, Fort. BOMBAY.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS Legal and Public Notification are published in these columns at the followin rates:—

	Per Column Inch per Insertion.
1st Insertion ..	.. Rs. 7-8-0
2nd Insertion ..	.. Rs. 5-8-0
3rd Insertion ..	.. Rs. 4-8-0
4th & Subsequent Insertions ..	.. Rs. 3-8-0

Mofussil advertisers are requested to send remittance in advance and state clearly, whether they wish to insert their advertisements in these columns or in the classified short advertisement columns.

REMOVAL NOTICE

THE following Offices will be REMOVED to THE TOP FLOOR of the ALLAHABAD BANK BUILDING, Apollo Street, from 1st of March, 1927:—

Kilachand Devchand and Co.
Kilachand Devchand and Co., Ltd.
The Khachand Mills Ltd.
The Great American Insurance Co., Ltd.

New Telephone No. 26506 (5 Lines).

28218

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

NOTICE

CHOWPATTY MARKET is practically completed and Public Auctions for stalls in vegetable, fruit, fowl and mutton sections will be held daily from 1st March, 1927, at 8 a.m. (B. T.) until the stalls are filled up.

Stalls for fruits, vegetables, oilmanstores, grain and flour, dried fruits, fresh flowers, potatoes and onions and garlic dates salt, pickles and papad, limes, spices, bread and butter, cold drinks and ice, biscuits, cocoanuts and plantain leaves are proposed to be sold by auction. Vendors desiring stalls for these purposes should attend at the auction.

By Order of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay.

C. M. FLANDERS,
Superintendent of Markets.

Arthur Crawford Market
Office, Bombay.

Dated 24th February, 1927.

28207

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

NOTICE

CHOWPATTY MARKET is nearly completed. It is proposed to fill up the stalls as soon as possible after March 1st. Arrangements are made for all provisions to be sold in the Market except beef. This being so if two sites for outside beef shops are found in nearby places, unobjectionable on sanitary grounds and not objected to by the nearby residents, licenses will be given to enable Malabar Hill and Pedder Road residents to get their supplies of beef close to the new market.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay.

C. M. FLANDERS,
Superintendent of Markets.

Arthur Crawford Market
Office, Bombay.

Dated 24th February, 1927.

28208

AHMEDABAD MUNICIPALITY

NOTICE

TWO old Babcock and Wilcox Boilers, complete with Economisers and Superheaters with their new spare parts and in use for 23 years at the Jamalpur Pumping Drainage Station of this Municipality are for sale. Intending purchasers are requested to submit their offers upto 4-0 p.m. on THURSDAY, the 31st March, 1927.

Particulars Re: the boilers, superheaters, Economisers and the new parts can be had from the Store Keeper, on application.

The boilers and superheaters shall have to be removed from the Engine room by the purchaser at his cost.

(Sd.) S. A. SHETE,
Chief Officer,
Ahmedabad Municipality.

Store Office.
25-2-'25.

28233

PUBLIC NOTICES.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

'HOLI' FESTIVAL.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

AS in the opinion of the undersigned it is necessary for the safety of the public traffic that a check should be exercised on the excavation of holes in public thoroughfares in connection with the 'HOLI' Festival, the public are hereby warned that no such holes should be made on public roads, without the written permission of the undersigned, as provided for in Section 322 of the City of Bombay Municipal Act.

Permission for a period not exceeding six days (i.e. for the full-moon day and the following 5 days) will be granted, free of charge, on application to the Executive Engineer, not later than the 10th March, 1927, on the production of the last year's permit (which should be attached to application), on certain specified conditions, for making holes in such public streets as are not traversed by tramways, or treated with tar, bitumen, sheet asphalt or similar materials or paved with sett-stones.

H. B. CLAYTON,
Municipal Commissioner
for the City of Bombay.

Municipal Offices,
Bombay, 28th February, 1927.

28232

NOTICE.

GARDEN PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

THE Carriages and Motor Cars of guests attending the Garden Party at Government House on TUESDAY, the 1st March, 1927, will enter by the **Lower Gate, Walkeshwar Road,** and will leave by the Upper Gate to be parked outside Government House Grounds. The departure from the Garden Party will also be by the **Lower Gate.**

2. On arrival at the platform, a ticket bearing a number will be issued to the occupant and one bearing a similar number will be affixed to the conveyance.

3. On departure, as conveyances come up, the numbers will be called, and should owners not be present on the platform their conveyances will be sent round.

4. Guests coming in motor cars will be well advised to have licensed chaffeurs in charge of their cars, as cars ordinarily will be parked in the order in which they arrive and the later the arrival, the farther will they be from Government House.

5. As the lower drive is very narrow and there are many horse carriages no vehicle should overtake another vehicle while passing up the lower drive towards Government House.

P. A. KELLY,
Commissioner of Police.
Head Police Office,
Bombay, 24th February, 1927.

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 279 of 1921.

TAHERALLI MAHOMEDALLI KAJIJI. ..... Plaintiff.

V/s.

HAJI UMER HAJI MANECK ..... Defendant.

PURSUANT to the Decree absolute for sale made in the above Suit and bearing date the 26th day of June, 1922, and the Judge's Order, dated 18th October, 1922, the following immoveable property will be sold by public auction under the direction of the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at the premises on THURSDAY, the 3rd day of March, 1927, at the hour of four o'clock in the afternoon (Standard Time.)

PARTICULARS.

All that piece or parcel of land together with the messuages tenements and buildings standing thereon situate at Bandra in the Registration Sub-District of Bandra, containing by admeasurement three thousand one hundred and eighty (3180) square yards or thereabouts (being a portion of a land admeasuring 3651 square yards) and bearing Collector's non-Agricultural Survey No. 56 of Bandra in the Registration Sub District of Bandra in the Salsette Taluka, Bombay Suburban District and bounded, on or towards the East by the Public Road called 30 feet road, on or towards the West by the Ghod Bunder Road, on or towards the South by the Ghod Bunder Road and on or towards the North partly by the property of Dhunjishaw Cooverji Gazdar and others and partly by the Mang Lane and the building whereon are assessed by the Bandra Municipality under Houses Nos. 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 389, 389a, 390 and 395.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, application should be made at the office of the said Commissioner or at the office of Messrs. N. C. DALAL AND CO., Attorneys for the Plaintiff abovenamed at No. 111, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 14th day of February, 1927.

H. H. WADIA,
Commissioner.

28156.

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 1004 of 1924.

HIMATMAL KISHNA and Anr. .. Plaintiffs

V/s.

KRISHNARAO RAGHUNATH RANE and Others ..... Defendants.

PURSUANT to the Decree Absolute for Sale made in the above suit and bearing date the 5th day of October, 1925, the following immoveable property will be sold by Public Auction by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his Office in the Court House on TUESDAY, the 22nd day of March, 1927, at the hour of 4-30 o'clock in the afternoon (Standard Time).

PARTICULARS OF PROPERTY.

All that piece or parcel of Khoti land or ground together with the messuages tenements or dwelling houses standing thereon, situate at Khoti village of Juem, otherwise known by the name of Joo near Andheri in Taluka Salsette of the Thana District and in the Registration District of Thana Sub-District Bandra, containing by admeasurement 38 (thirty-eight) Gunthas or thereabouts bearing Survey No. 43 and Pot No. 5 and Entry No. 173 and bounded as follows, that is to say, on the East and North by the Public Road, on the West partly by the houses belonging to Keshao Popat and Jairam Gopinath Waman Narayan and partly by the part of Jairam Gopinath and on the South by the property of Khanderao and Pandurang and partly by a Tank.

All that piece or parcel of Khoti land or ground known as Gawthan together with the messuages tenements dwelling houses standing thereon situate at the Khoti village of Juem otherwise known by the name of Joo near Andheri in Taluka Salsette in the Thana District and in the Registration District of Thana, Sub-District of Bandra, containing by admeasurement four hundred and eighty square yards or thereabouts and bounded as follows:—that is to say, on or towards the East by Public Road, on or towards the West by the property of Baba Maneck and Vinayek Moreshwar, on or towards the South by the 1st Lane and on or towards the North by the 2nd Lane.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs. JEHANGIR MEHTA AND SOMJEE, Attorneys for the Plaintiffs abovenamed, at Cama Building, Bell Lane, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 1927.

(Sd.) H. H. WADIA,
Commissioner.

28227

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 3965 of 1924.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, LTD., ...Plaintiffs.

Versus.

S. NARAYEN AND CO. ..... Defendants.

PURSUANT to the Decree Absolute for Sale made in the above Suit and bearing date the 16th day of July, 1925, the following immoveable property will be sold by Public Auction by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his Office in the Court House on THURSDAY, the 31st day of March, 1927, at the hour of 4-45 o'clock in the afternoon (Standard Time).

PARTICULARS.

All that piece or parcel of Government land or ground situate, lying and being at Andheri Taluka Bandra, District Thana, in the Registration Sub-District of Bandra District Thana, containing by admeasurement 2465 square yards or thereabouts and registered in the books of the Collector of land Revenue under entry No. 103, Survey No. 30, New Pot No. 11, Old Pot No. 17, Akar 2-2-0 area 12-1|2 Gunthas or thereabouts, Entry No. 103, Survey No. 30, Falni No. 7, Akar Nil, area 1|2 Gunthas or thereabouts and entry No. 114, Survey No. 32, New Pot No. 1, Old Pot No. 9, Akar Rs. 1-8-0, area of Gunthas one anna or thereabouts and bounded as follows that is to say, on or towards the West by a land bearing non-agricultural number and Survey No. 30 Pot No. 15, on or towards the East by the boundary of the village of Gundavli and on or towards the South by the land bearing Survey No. 32, Pot No. 2 and on the North partly by land bearing Survey No. 30, Pot No. 16, and partly by boundary of Gundavli Village and which said premises were formerly in the occupation of Waman Wasudeo Moorarjan.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale, application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs. ARDESIR HORMUSJI DINSHAW AND CO., Attorneys for the Plaintiffs abovenamed at No. 113, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 8th day of February, 1927.

H. H. WADIA,
Commissioner.

28230

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 4361 of 1924.

NARANDAS KILABHAI alias JUGJIWANDAS & Anr. ..... Plaintiffs.

Vs.

MAHOMED FAIZULLA MAHOMED TAQI alias BANUMIYA MAHOMED & Anr. ..... Defendants.

PURSUANT to the Decree Absolute for Sale made in the above Suit and bearing date the 8th day of April, 1926, the following immoveable properties in six lots will be sold by Public Auction by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his Office in the Court House on THURSDAY, the 3rd day of March, 1927, at the hour of 4-30 o'clock in the afternoon (Standard Time).

PARTICULARS.

LOT NO. I.

All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with messuages tenements or dwelling house standing thereon, situate at Borivli formerly under Registration Sub-District Bandra, District Thana, but now under Southern Bombay Suburban District in Taluka South Salsette and bearing Nos. as follows:—

New Entry No.	Old Entry No.	Survey No.	Pot No.	Acre Gunthas.	Assessment.
159 (Ka)	51	1	3	3-8¼	22-0-0

and which is bounded as follows, on or towards the East by the ground of Amirudin, on or towards the West by the Public Road, on or towards the South by the Brook and on or towards the North by the property of Shaikh Dawood bin Ahmed Saley Tikley.

LOT NO. II.

FIRSTLY:—All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with messuages tenements or dwelling house standing thereon situate at Borivli, formerly under Registration Sub-District Bandra, District Thana but now under Southern Bombay Suburban District in Taluka South Salsette and bearing Nos. as follows:—

New Entry No.	Old Entry No.	Survey No.	Pot No.	Acre Gun.	Assessment.
124 (Ka)	43	1		20¼	2-0-0

and which is bounded as follows:—on or towards the East by the ground bearing Survey No. 129, on or towards the West and South by the ground bearing Survey No. 129 on or towards the North by Malat.

SECONDLY:—All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with messuages tenements or dwelling house standing thereon situate at Borivli formerly under Registration Sub-District Bandra, District Thana, but now under Southern Bombay Suburban District in Taluka South Salsette bearing Nos. as follows:—

New Entry No.	Old Entry No.	Survey No.	Pot No.	Acre Gun.	Assessment.
133 (Ka)	46	1 & part ly of 2	19	2-1-0	

and which is bounded as follows:—on or towards the East by the ground bearing Survey No. 142, on or towards the West by the ground bearing Survey No. 44, on or towards the South by the ground bearing Survey No. 136/145 and on or towards the North by the ground bearing Survey No. 142.

LOT NO. III.

All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with messuage tenements or dwelling house standing thereon situate at Borivli formerly under Registration Sub-District Bandra, District Thana, but now under Southern Suburban District in Taluka South Salsette and bearing Nos. as follows:—

New Entry No.	Old Entry No.	Survey No.	Pot No.	Falni No.	Acre Gun.	Assessment
142	48	6	0	11		2-0-0

LOT NO. IV.

All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with messuages tenements or dwelling house standing thereon situate at Borivli, formerly under Registration Sub-District Bandra, District Thana but now under Southern Bombay Suburban District in Taluka South Salsette and bearing Nos. as follows:—

New Entry No.	Old Entry No.	Survey No.	Pot No.	Acre Gun-thas	Assessment
137(Ka)	43	1	9¼		1-8-0

and which is bounded as follows:—on or towards the East by the Government Forest on or towards the West and South by the property of Jivan Ladkya and on or towards the North by the property of Hasha Jivan.

LOT NO. V.

All that piece or parcel of land or ground together with messuages tenements or dwelling house standing thereon situate at Borivli formerly under Registration Sub-District Bandra, District Thana, but now under Southern Bombay Suburban District in Taluka South Salsette and bearing Nos. as follows:—

New Entry No.	Old Entry No.	Survey No.	Pot No.	Acre Gun.	Assessment.
138(Ka)	48	2		2¾	0-8-0
141(Ka)	48	5		5½	1-0-0
148(Ka)	45	6		3¾	0-12-0
				12¼	2-4-0

LOT No. VI.

House originally door No. 173 Municipal No. 373 built on site No. 78 in Bassangudi Entension Bangalore City in Mysore State, measuring 260 feet by 200 feet bounded, on the East by Forty feet Road, and North by West Cross Road, on the South by Mr. Hanumantha Rao's house, on the West by G. Coopoo Rao's vacant site and by admeasurement being 52000 square feet be it a little more or less.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the office of Messrs. THAKOREDAS & CO., Attorneys for the plaintiffs abovenamed at No. 38, Nanabhai Lane, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 18th day of January, 1927.

H. H. WADIA,
Commissioner.

28065

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 1901 of 1925.

BAYABAI, widow of Ebrahim Haji Mahomed & Ors. ... Plaintiffs.

v/s.

NOORMAHOMED EBRAHIM HAJI MAHOMED and Others ... Defendants.

PURSUANT to the Decretal Order of Reference to the Commissioner made in the above suit and bearing date the 10th day of November, 1925, the following immoveable property will be sold by Public Auction by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his office in the Court House on TUESDAY, the 22nd day of March, 1927, at the hour of 4-15 o'clock in the afternoon (Standard Time).

PARTICULARS.

All that piece or parcel of leasehold land or ground with building standing thereon situate, lying and being at Chinchpokli, in the Registration Sub-District of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 1211 2/9 square yards or thereabouts and registered by the Collector of Land Revenue under New Survey No. 2508 and bounded as follows: that is to say, on or towards the East by the property of Haji Fazal Amin, on the West by the Road belonging to the Western India Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., on the North by the property of the said Company and on the South by Kalachowki Road, together with the messuage tenement or dwelling house standing thereon and assessed by the Municipality of Bombay under F Ward No. 1071 (6) and Street Nos. 31E and 31F.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, application should be made at the office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs. UNWALLA PEEROZSHAW AND PAPA, Attorneys for the Plaintiffs abovenamed at No. 76, Medows Street, Fort, Bombay or to Messrs. PAYNE AND CO., attorneys for the 4th defendant firm at Mercantile Bank Buildings, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 1927.

(Sd.) H. H. WADIA,
Commissioner.

28224

TENDERS.

BOMBAY IMPROVEMENT TRUST

SEALED TENDERS will be received by Trust Engineer's Office near King's Circle, Matunga, Bombay No. 19 not later than 3 p.m. (S. T.) on THURSDAY, 10th of March, 1927, for the Supply of "Petty Stores" during 1927-1928 for which a deposit of Rs. 1,000 will have to be lodged before-hand.

Form of Tender, Specification and conditions governing the lodging of deposit etc., can be had from the above Office on payment of Rs. 5 in cash. Tender forms will not be sent by V. P. P.

The tender will be considered as a whole and not for any single item or items.

(Sr.) T. R. S. KYNNERSLEY,
M. Inst. C. E.
Acting Engineer to the Board.

25-2-1927.

28226

AMUSEMENTS

A FIRST NATIONAL PICTURE
CONSTANCE TALMADGE
IN
A BIG COMEDY HIT
"Her Night of Romance"
A side-splitting fun film.
A star with a real name and
A story with a punch.
"Her Night of Romance"
8 REELS
SOME NIGHT! WE'LL SAY
TIME: 6-15, 8-15 & 10 P.M.
Pathe Cinema. Royal Opera House.

ARE YOU GOING?
TO SEE THE
20 MIDGETS 20
Smallest Men and Women in the World
CHEFALO
World's Greatest Magician.
PALMERO
Foremost Lady Illusionist.
IF SO—
BOOK NOW—SEATS GOING FAST.
EXCELSIOR THEATRE
GALA OPENING SAT. MARCH 5TH AT 9-30 P.M.
Special Matinees TUES. & SAT.
Every Child in Bombay Should See the Midgets
Plan at S. ROSE & CO., LD.

EXCELSIOR THEATRE
TO-DAY AT 6-30 P.M.
A PARAMOUNT ARTCRAFT PICTURE.
"THE EGG CRATE WALLOP"
Featuring
CHARLES RAY.
A country-boy story with a kick!

EXCELSIOR THEATRE.
FAREWELL PERFORMANCE
To-Night at 9-30 P. M.
DICK NORTON PRESENTS:—
THE NEW
GLOBE TROTTERS COMPANY
IN A
WHIMSICAL, REVUESICAL AND MUSICAL MELANGE.
Booking at Rose & Co. upto 6 P. M. After 7 P.M. at the Theatre.

EDWARD THEATRE.
6-30, 8-15 and 10 p.m.
"CAMERON OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED"
Featuring GASTON GLASS.
Here's a picture with its fast-moving action, colorful backgrounds

CINEMA MAJESTIC
Presents THIS WEEK
Imperial Film Co.'s
THE WILD CAT OF BOMBAY
Featuring
Miss SULOCHANA.

A FLIRTING WIFE
IS COMING
TO
BOMBAY.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers who do not receive their copy of "The Chronicle" in time are requested kindly to furnish the following information to the Manager, Subscription Department:—

Date of paper .....
Time of delivery .....
Name of Subscriber .....
Address .....
Register No. .....

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CLASSIFIED ADVT.

Readers, Private Short Advertisements are inserted in these columns at the following rates:—

HALF ANNA

PER WORD

CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER.

The full name and address of the advertiser is required, not necessarily for publication.

Advertisers who do not wish their names and addresses published will be given a Box number. The words: Apply Box No.—Advertisemet Department, "Bombay Chronicle," to be paid for.

Answers to advertisements should be addressed as follows:—Box Number—Advertisement Department, "Bombay Chronicle" Office, Bombay.

Unclaimed replies to advertisements are destroyed after one month.

SITUATIONS VACANT

TOUCH TYPEWRITING taught free at STANDARD TYPEWRITER COMPANY, 321, Hornby Road.
A R58

TOUCH TYPEWRITING TAUGHT AT CROWN TYPEWRITER CO., Cawasji Patel Street, Opp. Hongkong Bank. Moderate Fee.
A R74

SITUATIONS WANTED

A MUSLIM UNDERGRADUATE TUTOR of long experience will teach Mathematics, English and Persian upto Matric. Also Urdu, Gujarati and Arabic. Please address Box No. 1920, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle".
B R73

HOUSES & FLATS TO LET

TO LET—FINE AIRY DOUBLE ROOMS at reduced cheap rents in the following properties of Seth Meghji Vallabhdas and known as Ghatkoparwala's Chawls, situated at:—1, New Chawl at Mugbhat Lane, Girgaon, 2, No. 840, Bhavanishanker Road, Dadar, 3, Love Lane, Cross Lane, Byculla, (Near Omiar Foundry) 4, Bapty Road. Two-Tanks, Near Victoria's Stand.
C 28165

TO LET—SHOPS AND GODOWNS at reduced cheap rents. Also suitable for HOTELS and WINE SHOPS in the following properties of Seth Meghji Vallabhdas, known as Ghatkoparwala's Chawls, situated at:—I, New Chawl at Mugbhat Lane, Girgaon, 2, No. 840, Bhavanishanker Road Dadar, 3, Bapty Road, Two Tanks, Near Victoria Stand. Apply sharp to BHAIYA on the Spot, or:—Jamnadas Meghji, 2nd Floor, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
C 28164

TO LET AND FOR SALE AT HARDWAR.—Two big palatial Kothies at Bhimgoda, one single and the other double storied with commodious out-houses, kitchens etc. Being the only Kothies of its kind in Hardwar, built in up-to-date style with modern comforts, has always been occupied by Rajas and Princes. It stands in the healthiest locality on the main road free from congested quarters with sacred Ganges on one side and extensive grounds above 40 acres on the other, a few minutes walk only, to Har-Ki-Pari. Apply to GYAN SWARUP 21 New Road, Dehra Dun.
C R51

PHOTOGRAPHY.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs of general interest are invited from readers from all parts of India for publication in "The Chronicle." Preference will be given to topical photographs on subjects of political, general, engineering, scientific or other interest. Accepted photographs will be paid for on publication, at usual rates.

The Editor undertakes no responsibility for the return of unaccepted photographs, but every endeavour will be made to return rejected photographs, accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes. All photographs must be sent to the

EDITOR,
"Bombay Chronicle,"
Medows Street, Fort, Bombay.

MOTOR AND ACCESSORIES

FOR SALE—Two FORD CARS in working order. Apply MANAGER, "Bombay Chronicle."
J. A.

PROFESSION.

BE HERO and SATISFY your lovely wife thrillingly by alround. Weakness no object stylish methods on rupees two strictly in advance. A. S. PAUL, ST. & Expert B. C. Sheffield Bombay, 13.
P R75

HANDWRITING Identification and Forgery, Mr. Charles Hardless, Senior Handwriting Expert, India, can be consulted during the next few days—Room 39, Hotel Majestic.
R 71

CONSUMPTION and all drug-failed diseases of men and women are easily cured by chromo and water treatment before it is too late. Inquire of Nature cure Dr. D. VASUDEO ACHARYA N.D., H.D., (America) at Natural Treatment Home, Balaram Street, between Foras Road and Grant Road.
R 18

FREE TREATMENT FOR LEPROSY.
(Under Special Diet).

FREE SAMPLE PACKETS of the Infallible remedy for Leucoderma or White Leprosy to prove its efficacy and to show that the disease is not incurable as supposed. It never fails. The sample packet will be enough to produce wonders in only one inch spot. Write for it at once per V. P. P. for annas 6 to meet the cost of its transmission. Details of infallible remedies for Constipation, Dyspepsia, etc., etc. PANDIT KRIPARAM (Specialist in Leprosy), 8, Nandibagan Lane, Sulkhia (Howrah).

N.B.—"Leprosy and its Treatment," a guide to cure Leprosy. Price Rs. 2, postage As. 5 extra.

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE—A BLACK-BIRD FOUNTAIN PEN: For particulars, Write to:—BHARATI HOUSE,, Krishnaraj Mohalla, Mysore.
19

AUCTION SALES.

BENNETT & CO.

120, APOLLO STREET, FORT

AUCTION SALE OF MARKET RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF BANDRA SLAUGHTER HOUSE, ETC.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will on WEDNESDAY, the 16th instant sell by Public Auction at 9 a.m. (B. T.) at Arthur Crawford Market the right to collect fair ground fees from cattle dealers and all others at the Bombay Municipal Slaughter House, Bandra for 12 months (from 1st April 1927 to 31st March 1928) and the right to collect fees for selling dry and fresh fish etc., from the retail vendors sitting outside or inside at the unnumbered places at markets and Bazars in Bombay such as Fort markets, outside Fort Arthur Crawford Beef, fish and mutton markets, Null Bazar, Erskine Road fish market, Chowpatty fish and vegetable market, Colaba fish market, Mazagon Peddar fish market, Kamatipura market, Parel Ferguson Road fish market, Parbhadevi Road market, and Elphinstone Road market. Besides the right of collecting fees from the petty vendors sitting at vegetable market at Colaba Ferguson Road, Parbhadevi Elphinstone Road and Masjid markets. Also the right to collect fee and rents for weighing fruits and vegetables at the Municipal scales at Arthur Crawford Market.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply at the office of the Superintendent of markets or to the undersigned.

The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the highest or any offer.

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY, SITUATE AT BHANDARI STREET.

Under instructions from N. H. Moos Esquire the Receiver appointed in suits No. 1971 of 1926 and 1144 of 1923, Messrs. BENNETT AND CO. will on THURSDAY the 24th instant sell by public auction at 5 p.m. (S. T.) on the premises the following property:

All that piece of land or ground together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling house standing thereon situate at Bhandari Street admeasuring about 260 7/9 square yards bearing collector's old No. 559 new No. 6213 old survey No. 831 new survey No. 2304 and assessed by the municipality under B Ward No. 1957 street No. 23-35 and bounded on the east by the property of Ebji Dossa on the west by the property of Lukmanji Ukeda on the north by the Bhandari Street and on the south by the property of Ramchandra Chimnaji.

For further particulars and conditions of sale please apply to Messrs. Jamshedjee Rustomjee and Devidas Attorneys for the Receiver or to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE OF GOLD, PEARL, RUBY AND DIAMOND ORNAMENTS.

Under instructins from N. H. Moos, Esquire the Receiver in suit No. 1039 of 1908 (Karsondas vs. Ramabai) and pursuant to the directions contained in the consent decree dated the 7th February 1927 passed in suits Nos. 1971 of 1926 and 1144 of 1923, Messrs. BENNETT AND CO, will on TUESDAY, the 8th instant sell by public auction at 3-30 p.m. (S. T.) at their rooms:—

Gold, pearl, ruby and diamond ornaments such as Naths, Vangia, Pochi Chichpati, Buttis, Lavangia, Tikdo, Ring, Googaries, Kambhis. Kardas etc., etc.

A deposit of 25 per cent will be required at the time of sale.

AUCTION SALE OF THE STOCK-IN-TRADE, BAKERY MACHINERY, PLANT, FURNITURE, ETC., INCLUDING THE GOODWILL AND THE BENEFIT OF THE LIQUOR AND OTHER LICENCES OF MESSRS. PEARSE AND CO., OF APOLLO STREET, FORT, AS A GOING CONCERN IN ONE LOT.

Under instructions from N. H. Moos, Esqr. Receiver (in Suit No. 1143 of 1926, Barjorjee H. Bamboat vs. Behramjee S. Umrigar and anr.) and pursuant to the directions contained in the Court's order made on the 27th September, 1926, and 8th November, 1926, Messrs. BENNETT AND CO., will on THURSDAY, the 10th instant at 5 p.m. (S. T.) sell by public auction on the premises the Stock-in-trade, Bakery, Machinery, plant, Furniture, including the goodwill and the benefit of the liquor and other licences of the said business of Messrs. Pearse and Co., Confectioners Bankers, Tea and Coffee Merchants and Restaurant Keepers of Apollo Street, Fort, as a going concern in one lot.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Bhaishankar Kanga and Girdharilal, or Messrs. Dabholkar and Jeshtaram, Solicitors, for the Receiver or to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY SITUATE AT ARTHUR ROAD.

Under instructions from Messrs. Jehangir D. Neemuchwala and J. P. Wallace, Liquidators of the Porcupine Foundry Coy. Ld. (in liquidation) and Receivers for the trustees of the debenture holders of the said Company, Messrs. Bennett & Coy. will on Wednesday the 23rd instant sell by public auction at 4-30 p.m. (S. T.) on the premises the following property:—

All that piece of leasehold land situate at Arthur Road, together with the messuage and buildings standing thereon (other than those standing on lands underleased) admeasuring about twelve thousand nine hundred and seventy two Square Yards bearing Collector's Old No. 552 New No. 14108 Old Survey No. 235 and New Survey No. 1/3415 and assessed by the Municipality under one or more of E Ward Nos. 4483, 4495, 4496 (1) & 2 and 4497 Street Nos. 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, and 132 and bounded on the North by the property of Rustomji Byramji Jeejibhoy, on the South and East by Arthur Road aforesaid and on the West by the propery of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Coy., and which premises are now in the occupation partly of the Vendors and partly in the occupation of the Vendor's Underlessees and tenants.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, please apply to Messrs. Jehangir and Seervai attorneys for the liquidators and receivers or to the undersigned.

BENNETT & CO.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

Under instructions received from the Director of Contracts, C. S. Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla, the undersigned will sell by public auction:—

Group 1. Leather, leather goods, harness and saddlery, clothing, grindery and textiles.

Group 2. Machinery, machine tools, tools of all descriptions.

Group 3. Vehicles of all natures, wheels, and metals of all descriptions.

Group 4. Telegraph stores, telephone and telephone stores, electric stores, and wireless equipments, and wireless stores.

Group 5. Lamps of all descriptions, mechanical stores, lorries, cars and fittings.

Group 6. Packing cases, packing materials, lighting jacks, lifting tackles, wire ropes, cordage, timber articles, spokes, parches, drought poles, scotches, planks, boxes, covers, water proofs, and paulins, miscellaneous articles of barracks and hospitals stores, scales, weighing machines, weights, etc., oils, paints, chemicals, steel barrels, drums, instruments of various descriptions and technicals, etc. on 7th, 9th, 11th, 14th, 16th, and 18th March, 1927, respectively at the Central disposal Dump, Dum-Dum Cantonment (Bengal) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1-30 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily. The detailed lists of stores, conditions of sales and other particulars connected therewith may be obtained free of charge from the undersigned on application.

KHAN BAHADUR HAJI, M.A.,
BAQI KHAN, M.A., QUALYUM KHAN,
Government Auctioneer,
Chuk, Allahabad, U. P.

"AN AMAZING RULING."

To the Editor of "The Chronicle".

Sir,—I think that you were rather unnecessarily hard on the President of the Bombay Council for his ruling re. Mr. Jairamdas' motion for adjournment. So far as I understand the standing orders and rules prescribed for the Bombay Council, I consider the ruling to the absolutely correct, and your attack on the President under the above caption, was hardly merited or well-founded. Mr. Jairamdas wanted to adjourn the Council to discuss the situation created by the recent failure of crops in the several parts of the Presidency owing to locusts or other causes; but as pointed out by the President, the recent failure of crops had occurred long before January and there was, no doubt, sufficient time for a member to table a resolution on that subject for discussion in the present session.

As you are aware, in the budget session, only two or three days are allotted for non-official business and the Government too brings only important legislation for discussion in this session, as sixteen days have in all to be reserved for presentation and discussion of the budget. A member who is therefore anxious for discussing a particular matter in this session, before all other matters, must either secure first place in the ballot or induce all members standing above him in the ballot to give him precedence. Failing either of these, the member may move the adjournment of the House and if the President consents, he secures for his motion, precedence over all other business, either official or non-official. It will thus be seen, that the adjournment motion dislocates the settled business of the day and is unfair to all those members, whom the ballot had favored. The member therefore who seeks to adjourn the house must make out a very strong case and must so frame his motion as to come within the scope of the Rules mentioned by the President. Mr. Jairamdas' motion was not correctly framed and it is no use blaming the President for the ruling he gave.

To avoid such technical objections, Mr. Jairamdas would have done well, to consult some old member, say for instance, Mr. Pahlajani, the ex-Deputy-President, who would have appropriately worded the motion simply for the asking. Mr. Jairamdas may even now succeed if he seeks, to adjourn the Council to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance namely, the recent Government communique re. the agricultural outlook in the province and the serious situation created thereby. The communique was published in the press on or about 18th or 19th and such a motion would not be open to any objections raised by the President.

I would however suggest to Mr. Jairamdas to discuss the agricultural situation in the province, when a demand for grant will be asked for by the Member-in-charge of Land Revenue. All grievances about Land Revenue administration may then be brought forward with the additional advantage that there would be no time-limit for such discussion. I have no doubt that the President, who has the requisite mentality to be fair and serviceable, would allow full latitude for such a discussion.—Yours, etc.

'P. G. JOSHI.

Erandol, Feb. 23.

"THE THIN RED LINE."

To the Editor of "The Chronicle".

Sir,—I am now rewriting and bringing up-to-date the history of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, the "Thin Red Line," and I would be very grateful if anyone who has old letters, diaries, records, or other information regarding this battalion, more especially between 1799 and 1848, would kindly communicate with me at the address given below.

Should this meet the eye of any desirous of ordering a copy (price not exceeding one pound) they are asked to do so through me as soon as possible.

If you can find space for the above in your valued journal my brother officers and myself would much appreciate your help.—Yours, etc.

Hanover Court,
Hanover Square,
W.I. London.

Brig.-General.
A. E. Y. CAVENDISH.

London, Feb. 4.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

"LADY IRWIN GOLD MEDAL" ESSAY

The Central Social Service League, Delhi, is offering the above Gold Medal for the best essay on "Prevention of Pulmonary Tuberculosis among Purdah women in large towns in India."

The conditions for the competition are:—(1) Competition open to Medical-men and women only; (2) The Essay not to exceed 3,000 words; (3) Time limit upto 31st March, 1927; (4) The Essay must be type-written and the name of the Competitor to be given separately on the covering letter and not on the Essay itself; (5) The Essays will be judged by a committee of the following:—(a) Lt.-Col. J. Norman Walker, I.M.S., M.R.C.P. (London) M.R.C.S. (England) D. T. M. Surgeon to H. E. the Viceroy; (b) Dr. Rao, M.D. (London) of Bombay; (c) Dr. S. C. Roy, M.D. (Calcutta) F.R.C.P. (London) M.R.C.S., (England) Professor of Medicine, Belgachia Medical College, Calcutta; (6) All Essays will become the property of the League; (7) All Essays to be sent registered to: Dr. S. P. Shroff, President; The Central Social Service League, Fatehpuri, Delhi.

THE DAMOCLES' SWORD.

To the Editor of the "Chronicle."

Sir,—The B. N. Railway strike is a bit far off from Bombay so the strike would not affect the goods as well as the passenger-traffic of Bombay as much as it would of Calcutta. However, it is high time the Bombay public as well as all concerned ought to know that more serious grievances and deeper subterranean discontent do exist in the subordinate as well as the menial staff of the G. I. P. Railway which is now in name a Government Railway but which is still being managed in time-worn way of the old G. I. P. Railway Company by the very same officers who care more for their own wages and personal comforts than for the fair fame and revenue of the Railway.

Their splitting up and jumbling together of departments have neither increased the efficiency nor decreased the expenditure. All that they could do in this direction is that some new posts of office are created and many real workers have lost their employment.

Another serious grievance of the staff is that in no other Indian Railway the Damocles' sword in shape of periodical medical examination is hanging so cruelly on the heads of the subordinate staff as is the case in the G. I. P. Railway. In no other Indian Railways these periodical ordeals are so strict and whimsical as they are on the G. I. P., thus making the positions and future of the subordinate staff quite insecure and unsteady.

Fines and debits are the order of the day. Not a month passes without fines or debits; the costs of the messages issued purely in the interest of the Railway are being debited to the poor clerks whose wages are barely enough to keep their bodies and souls together. Poor station masters are fined for the neglect and errors of their commercial clerks and the menial staff and mahals are debited with the cost of globes and chimneys broken due to the usual wear and tear. The Railway administration thinks that these globes and chimneys are immortal and that they would never break unless they are carelessly handled, they have made no provision whatever for such usual wear and tear-breakage, for every broken globe or chimney some one must pay, may it be a subordinate or a menial getting 12 chips a month for himself and his family.

One more grievance of the G. I. P. men is that there is no appeal against the legal or illegal orders of the divisional officers. In their orders fining the staff it is often clearly stated that——"Note, further explanation is not required." If any one of the staff inspite of such orders appeal against the orders of the divisional satraps, he is doomed, he must sooner or later go for good or get the sack.

Solid unity by being under a single banner of the union society, thorough organisation, regular constitutional representation of their case and then if the Agent or the Railway Board refuse to do them justice—the strike as the last resort are the only available means to remedy their grievances, the existence of which is being totally denied by the officers of the G. I. P. and their statement will also be corroborated by a few "Jhokums" in the staff who have their own axes to grind.

G. I. P. men, are you all men or lambs? Unite, educate, organise and then strike—strike hard on the head of this demon of a system which has given so unlimited powers and so unrestricted authority to the Railway officers to punish and ruin poorly-paid subordinate and menial staff of the G. I. P. Railway.—Yours, etc.

A LOYALIST.

PLEA FOR A RY. LINE AT URAN.

In the course of his speech made at the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition held at Pirwari, in Uran District, Mr. M. J. Tungekar, after referring to the importance of such exhibitions in the development of commerce and industry of the country, said:

"It may not be out of your knowledge that Uran is more of a salt mine than an agricultural district. It is abounding in salt pans which produce very large quantities of salt but in the absence of proper means of exportation of salt produce it has unfortunatly remained backward. Though there is no facility of a Dhakka, on the cost of Uran, there are needs of railway facilities and I can say with some emphasis that this place would be a more valuable asset both to the people and the Government if the desired railway facility will be made therein.

It is understood that a railway line has been proposed to be constructed hence I have to request you all to strongly support me in my humble voice with a view to impress upon the minds of the Railway Authorities who have been kind enough to come over here to-day that the proposed railway line will be undoubtedly a beneficial thing to the people and the Government and the Railway, if it will be constructed near and passing by the Uran salt pans.

The sympathetic and foresighted Government of Sir Leslie Wilson is keenly bent upon the Development of smaller industries in our Presidency. Their revival is indispensable and in may humble opinion such revival of the above industries, can be very strongly effected through the means of exhibitions alone.

At the Exhibition prizes were distributed by the hand of the President, Mrs. R. L. Sinclare on behalf of R. M. J. Tungekar:—

DISASTROUS FIRE AT THANA

DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT RS, 25,000.

(From Our Correspondent.)

THANA, Feb. 26.

At about 2-30 a.m., the Thana citizens were roused from their slumbers by the continuous pealing of the Church bell which thereby gave the alarm that a fire had broken out in some part of the city. Groups of people were seen rushing towards the Bombay Road as the flames were seen mounting up from that side. Near the B. G. High School are situated the properties of the late Rao Bahadur Acharya. It appears that the disastrous fire broke out in one of the houses which was exclusively occupied by the tenants and practically the upper part of it including the valuables and moveables of the tenants was destroyed by the fire before the Municipal fire-engine was able to bring it under control.

Fortunately no life was lost, but the damage to the property may amount to Rs. 25,000. No doubt the fire-engine did its work though it came late on the scene. But it cannot be denied that the arrangements for extinguishing such fires are entirely inadequate.

KAPURTHALA'S GIFT.

His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala paid a visit to the Kanya Mahavidyala Jullundur inspected the school and was much pleased with the work he saw in the English, music and charka classes. His Highness was presented with an address eulogising his many good qualities to which he suitably replied. His Highness increases the State grant to the school from Rs. 50 to Rs. 150 per month, and gave Rs. 200 for the distribution of sweets on account of his visit.

IRAN LEAGUE'S GENERAL MEETING

The first Triennial General Meeting of the Iran League was held on 24th instant at the office of the League, at 4, Cama Street, Fort, Sir Hormasji C. Dinshaw, Kt. presiding.

The Chairman in moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts for the three years commencing from September 1922 to September 1925 explained the objects of starting the League for establishing closer relations between the Parsis and Persia, and said that the League suggested to the Parsi parents to once again teach Persian to their children instead of French and Latin, and he was glad to see that many parents and Parsi owned schools had carried out the suggestion. The League had itself started two Persian classes where elderly ladies and gentlemen attended. The League had done satisfactory progress in broadcasting reliable information about Persia and the Persian Zoroastrians residing in Perhia; also an Industrial and Commercial Committee had been appointed to investigate the question of starting commercial relations with Persia, but looking to the financial situation, it was not thought advisable to hurry up the matter.

The League in co-operation with the Irani Anjuman had engaged Professor Aga Pure Dawood to translate the holy Cathas into Persian, and he had done the work satisfactorily. Mr. Pestonji D. Marker, one of the enthusiastic members, had given the handsome donation of about Rs. 2 lakhs for starting an Orphanage for Zoroastrian boys at Yezd, Persia. Besides this he had given more than Rs. 6,000 for publishing literature on Persia. Mr. G. K. Nariman, one of the Vice-Presidents, had published two valuable works under the auspices of this Fund. The Karachi Parsi Anjuman was annually contributing Rs. 500 to the Marker Literature Fund, for which they were obliged to them. A Fund for commemorating the memory of the great National Poet of Persia, Ferdousi Tusi, had been started, which amounted to Rs. 12,000. The League expressed its thanks to Lady Navazbai Tata for starting a free dispensary in Yezd.

The report was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. H. N. Bharuchaa seconded by Mr. F. C. Marshall, a new Managing Committee was appointed. As the name of Dr. Kekhasru K. Dadachanji was omitted, a member suggested his name in the Committee, but on being put to vote, it was thrown out by a majority.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

CHHAPANBHOG MAHOTSAVA.

The Chhapanbhog Mahotsavn will be celebrated at Dwarka from March 14th to 22nd April 1927. The organisers of the festival wish commercial travellers and advertisers to seize this opportunity by corresponding with them at 23, 3rd Bhoiwada Lane, Bhuleshwar, Bombay.

The Calcutta police arrested on Saturday two Mahomedans in Watgunge, a suburb of Calcutta and while searching their house recovered a pistol and some cartridges.—A. P.

At Saturday's meeting of the newly-constituted Patna City Municipality Babu Shyam Narayan Singh Sharma was elected Chairman securing 28 votes against 6 polled by Mr. Syed Mahamed,, the rival candidate. Babu Hari Prashad and Babu Bhagwat Prashad were elected vice-chairman and president respectively.—A. P.

WHY CONSTIPATION IS DANGEROUS

When the bowels fail to act regularly and freely, the body is quickly poisoned by waste products, and the skin is disfigured by pimples, blotches, boils and other eruptions. Delay is dangerous, but no matter how far the trouble has progressed relief can always be obtained by taking Little Laxaliver Pills. Chemists supply these at 14 annas per box, and one box invariably proves sufficient to overcome the most stubborn case.

SUGAR MARKET REPORT.

BOMBAY, Feb. 28.

Ready prices have ruled steady to-day around Saturday's closing levels. Java old crop shipments Feb.|April have improved respectively by 1d. and 4d. per cwt. B. R. B. Beet Sugar prices for ship. Jan. are also higher by 2d. than Saturday's levels. The market was entirely inactive yesterday as a mark of respect for the late Jain Swami Shri Vijayakamala Surishwar.

The following are the quotations ruling the market to-day:—

Fine White Java Sugar Ready Rs. 17 per cwt.

Fine White Java Transhipment Rs. 12 per cwt.

Fine White Java S. S. Hathipara Sh. 17|7 per F.B.H.

Fine White Java Shipment February Sh. 17|7 per F.B.H.

Fine White Java Shipment Feb.-March Sh. 17|10 per F.B.H.

Fine White Java Shipment April Sh. 18|8 per F.B.H.

Fine White Java Shipment July-Aug.-Sept. Sh. 17|4 per F.B.H.

Fine White Java Shipment Oct.-Nov.-Dec. Sh. 17|7 per F.B.H.

Fine Jamnagar C.I.F.

Fine Jamnagar Feb. Sh. 18|2 per F.B.H.

Fine Jamnagar Feb.-March Sh. 18|4 per F.B.H.

Fine Jamnagar April Sh. 19 per F.B.H.

B.R.B. Beet Sugar Ready Rs. 17|3 per F.B.H.

B.R.B. Beet Sugar Ready Ship. Jan. Sh. 17|7 per F.B.H.

B.R.B. Beet Sugar Ready Ship. Feb.-March Sh. 17|10 per F.B.H.

QUOTATIONS OF LOCAL MILL CLOTHS

(Issued by the Hindustani Native Merchants' Assoc ation).
Kalbadevi Ro d, Bombay
Feb. 2

		Rs.	a.	p.
KHADI:—	Per lb			
Textile	„	0	11	6
Century	„	0	11	0
Jacob	„	0	11	0
E. D. Sassoon	„	0	11	0
Elphinstone	„	0	10	9
Apollo	„	0	11	0
LONG CLOTH (Full weight) 34/40 In:				
Standard Mill	Per lb.	0	15	9
Century 91 1/2-92 1/2	„	0	15	6
Century 6404-8705	„	1	0	3
Hindustan Mill	„	0	15	6
Fazal (Mahal)	„	0	15	6
Phoenix	„	0	15	6
Pabaney (Phoolmala)	,	0	15	6
Manekji (Patangia)	„	0	15	0
Kaliamardan	„	0	15	6
Daud Sahib		0	15	0
LON CLOTH (Light weight) No. 5202/5303				
Rachael Mill	Per lb.	1	0	0
Hindustan Mill	„	0	15	0
David Mi	„	1	0	0
Apollo	„	1	0	0
LONG CLOTH x Quality:—				
Swan Finlay		0	15	0
Gold Mohor	„	0	14	6
LONG CLOTH Satin Calender 34-42 In:—				
Textile (Hand)	per lb.	0	15	0
Spring (Merchant)	„	0	15	0
Century (Bugle)	„	0	15	0
Apollo Pyala)	„	0	14	6
Tata Mill (Darji)	„	0	15	3
Sakuntala	„	0	15	0
Sundari Brand	„	0	14	9
Globe	„	0	14	9
Rachael	„	0	14	3
Pelkhi	„	0	14	3
Maher	„	0	15	0
LEPAD:—				
Spring	„	0	15	3
Textile	„	0	15	3
Century	„	0	15	3
Maher	„	0	14	3
DHOOTIES 7, 8, 9 Yards:—				
Spring (Balance)	Per lb.	1	1	6
Jacob	„	1	0	0
Century	„	1	0	6
Mun Mill	„	1	0	6
DHOOTIES 10 Yards:—				
Spring (Balance)	„	1	0	6
Century	„	1	15	6
Jacob	„	0	15	0
Mun Mill	„	1	0	0
1386 Tata	„	2	15	0
CHECK GREY DRILL x lbs. 5:—				
Bombay Cotton	Per piece	3	13	0
Jamshed	„	3	13	0
Century	„	4	4	0
Pearl Pabaney	„	4	1	0
Hindustan No. 902	„	4	6	0
BLACK CHECK:—				
5806 Sholapur	„	10	6	0
2020 Jacob	„	0	0	0
5800 Kurla	,	6	2	0
1325 Morarji	„	5	6	0
GABRUN No. 5124:—				
Pearl Pabaney	„	7	8	0
Hindustan	„	7	10	0
E. D. Rachael	„	6	6	
SALITA:—				
Century	Per lb.	0	14	9
Textile	„	0	15	0
Spring (Merchant)	„	0	15	0
STRIPPED SADIS Yards 12:—				
777 Kohinoor	Per piece	2	6	0
777 Crescent	„	2	3	6
Apollo David	„	2	3	6
DHOTI Yards 12-13-14:—				
Kanta	Per lb.	1	2	0
Great	„	1	1	6
Phoenix		1	2	0
Kohinoor	„	1	2	0
Tata	„	1	2	6
CHADAR Kori Calender:—				
Hindustan	Per lb.	0	14	6
David	„	0	14	6
Mahel		0	13	6

MONEY MARKET.

EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

B. C. RATE
Bank's selling T T 1/5 7/8.
Bank's selling D D 1/5 29/32.
LONDON—
Bank's selling T T 1/5 29/32.
Bank's selling D D 1/5 15/16.
Bank's buying 3 M/st D A 1/6 3/16.
Bank's buying T T 1/5 31/32.
Bank's buying D D 1/6.
PARIS—
Bank's selling D D Frcs. 882
Bank's buying 3 M/st D A Frcs 962.
Bank's buying D D Frcs. 947.
JAPAN—
Bank's selling T T Rs. 135 1/2.
Bank's buying 60 D/st D P Rs. 131 1/2.
HONGKONG—
Bank's selling Rs. 139 1/2.
SHANGHAI—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 175
SINGAPORE—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 156 1/2.
NEW YORK—
Bank's selling D D Rs. 276 1/2.
CROSS RATE—
London—New York Dol. 4.85 1/8.
London—Paris Frcs. 123.97.
London—Switzerland Frcs. 25.22.
London—Brussels Frcs. 34.88.
London—Rome Liras 110.90.
London—Berlin Marks 20.46.
Tone of Exchange:—Steady dull.

LONDON DISCOUNTS.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

3 months 4 13/32 per cent.
6 months 4 13/32 per cent.
Bank of England rate 5 per cent.
Money Call 6 1/2 per cent.
1 month 6 1/4 per cent.
3 months 5 1/2 per cent
6 months 4 3/4 to 5 per cent.
Tone of Money Market:—Firm.
Imperial Bank rate 7 per cent.

BULLION.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

Bar gold ready Rs. 21/9/3.
Bar gold forward Rs. 21/10.
Bar gold 2nd settlement Rs. 21/11.
Sovereign ready Rs. 13/8/3.
Sovereign forward Rs. 13/8/9
Bar silver ready Rs. 60/10.
Bar silver 1st settlement Rs. 60/5.
Bar silver 2nd settlement Rs. 60/4.

London, Feb. 27.

Bar gold ready s. 84/11 1/2
Silver ready d. 26/10.
Silver forward d. 26/6.
Tone of silver:—Quiet and steady. India bought. Very little business doing.
National Bank Bar Gold 21/13/0.

LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON STATISTICS.

Liverpool, Feb. 26.

The weekly cotton statistics as compiled by the Statistical Department of the Liverpool Cotton Exchange are as follows:

Week Ending 26-2-27.

	Bales.
Total in Sight	15,630,000
Egyptian Cotton Visible Supply	541,000
East Indian Cotton Visible Supply	142,000
American Cotton Visible Supply	6,880,000
Othe Cotton Visible Supply	354,000
Total Sales	94,000
East Indian Cotton Sales	100
East Indian Cotton Stock	8,600
East Indian Cotton Forwarded	900
East Indian Cotton Actual Export	300
East Indian Cotton Imports	3,000
American Cotton Afloat	185,000
East Indian Cotton Afloat	13,000
Total Afloat	276,000
Takings of the World's Spinners American Cotton	345,000

LINSEED AND WHEAT MARKETS.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

Linseed May	11	0	3
Wheat May	7	12	3
Wheat September	7	14	9

Linseed Steady—Wheat Quiet.

The following are the closing rates of Wheat and Seeds on Ready Delivery Terms to-day.

Per Cwt.	Rs.	a.	p.
Linseed Brown Bold	10	14	0
Linseed Brown Small	10	5	0
Castorseed Bold	10	14	0
Castorseed Small	11	10	0
Groundnutseeds Bold	13	5	0
Groundnutseeds Madras	13	10	0
Cottonseed	4	12	0
Wheat Delhi Pissi	8	2	6
Wheat Pissi Seoni 70/30	8	2	0

BOMBAY COTTON MARKET.

NEW YORK:—Steadiness in Near months Promoting Confidence Futures 8 to 1 higher.

LOCAL:—Continued Bull Support and heavy Coverings—Commission Houses Unloading Closed Barley Steady.

PRIVATE CABLES:—

Messrs. Patel have received the following cable dated 26th inst.:—

New York May highest 12.42 (11-05 a.m.) lowest 14.11 (10-13 a.m.)

Messrs. Thomas Smith and Co. have received the following cable from their Liverpool friends:—

Think market will gradually go higher in consequence of improving trade conditions.

Messrs. Umrigar and Vesugar's New York friends Messrs A. Norden and Co. cable under date 26th inst. as under:—

Strength in March promoting convaence.

From Liverpool d/ the 26th inst.:—

"Spinners' taking so far this season are 11,059,000 bales."

"America considers President's veto gives better hope reduction acreage.

From New York d/ the 26th inst.:

"Weekly weather mixed favourable South too wet for preparation North cotton offered more freely on advances."

"Active spot demand, higher markets Liverpool stimulating here despite heavy March liquidation, veto Farm Bill without effect but think will result liquidation disappointed longs. Stocks firm."

BOMBAY, Feb. 28.

Our New York friends Messrs. Harris, Irby & Vose wire to us to-day as under:—

"Cotton.—Reacion from present levels possible bult ultimately expect higher."

LOCAL MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 28

To-day the local market opened firm with Brach Apl/May at Rs. 301/8 and became strong on heavy short covering and Commission houses support; prices touching 305/- Market steadied at this level and fluctuated within one rupee and finally closed as under.—

	Op.	H.	Lo.	Cl.
Broach				
Apl/May	301/8	305	301/8	304
Jan/Apl	308	310	308	309/8
Oomra				
March	289	291	289	290/8
May	291	292/8	291	292
Bengal				
March	273	274	272	272
May	274	275	272	272

SEWRI MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 28

Liverpool opened quiet 5 points better. Our market opened quiet Broach Apl/May at Rs. 301 and improved to 303/4 on short covering. Commission houses were sellers and prices closed barely steady as under:—

	Op.	Hi.	Lo.	Cl.
Broach				
Apl/May	301	303/4	301	301/8
Jan/Apl	306	307	306	306/8
Oomra				
March	287	288	287	287
May	289	289/8	289	289
Bengal				
March	271	271	270	270
May	271	271	270	270

COTTON PRICES COMPARED.

Bombay, Feb. 28

		N. Y. May	Bombay. Broach A/M.
Highest Aug. 25	(1926)	18.30	same day 325
Lowest Dec. 3	(1926)	12.13	„ „ 246
Declined points		6.17	Rs. 79.

Subsequent Rise upto now:—

		N. Y. May	To-day. Broach A/M.
Closing Feb. 26	(1927)	14.20	305
Lowest Dec. 3	(1926)	12.13	246
Rise points		2.07	Rs. 59

How long this disparity will be maintained is a puzzling question before the cotton trade and strongly believe that those who buy American July against sale of Broach July/August will make a handsome profit with a little or no risk on the straddle.

SAMPIN MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

The Sampin market closed this morning as under:—

May—209.90, unchanged.
August—214.10, unchanged.

ROOM RATE.

Bombay, Feb. 28

Bengal				272
Bengal				272
Broach				303
Broach				303
Oomra				290
Oomra				292
Bengal	286	279	272	264
S./P.	282	275	268	260
Rajputana	286	279	272	264
Oomra No. 3	297	294	289	
C. P. No. 1	312	309	304	
C. P. No. 2	305	302	297	
Khandesh	293	290	285	
Muthia	290	287	282	

READY COTTON QUOTATIONS.

BOMBAY, Feb. 26th
Ready.
Mill Terms.
New

Bengal	Superfine	M. G.	280
„	Fine	„	275
„	F.G.	„	270
Sindh-Punjab	Fine	„	275
„	F.G.	„	270
Wardha-Hingt.	Fine	M.G.	305
Nagpur	„	„	305
Yeotmal	„	„	299
Arvi	„	„	299
Amraoti	„	„	292
Khamgaon-Akola	„	„	292
Mulkapur	„	„	288
Khandesh	„	,	285
Muthia	Fine	„	285
Nanded/Purna	Best Quality.		305/310
Purna	Average	„	290
Pabani/Sailu	„	„	285
Indore/Ujjain	„	„	295/98

BarochFine M.G. 325 Feb 320 March. 310

READY COTTON SALES.

Bombay, Feb. 28

200	Japan T. & Co.	Verabal	292
100	Japan T. & Co.	Amreli	290
200	Suzuki & Co.	C. P. No. 1	314
100	Suzuki & Co.	Kulkarni	296
300	R D Tata	Khandesh	292
200	A. Damodar	Berar	293
200	Currimbhai	Bengal	278
300	Toyomankwa	Khandesh	292
100	Volkart Bros.	Barwhu	294
200	K. Bamanjee	Bengal	289
200	Ozoburin	Khandesh	294

PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

BOMBAY, Feb. 28.

Receipts of various raw produce into Bombay upto noon the 26th inst:—

Wheat	3,903	cwts.
Linseed	6,935	„
Rape, Rai and Mustardseeds	1,605	„
Gingellyseeds	1,829	„
Groundnuts	8,319	„
Castorseed	10,876	„
Rice	45,719	„
Myrabollams	3,284	„
Cottonseed	3,774	„
Mowraseed	90	„
Gram	1,918	„
Jowar	562	„
Bajree	7,010	„
Coal	1,531	tons.

COFFEE.

New York, Feb. 26.

Fair Rio Coffee (No. 7 quality), Spot: 14.3/4.

BREUL & CO.'S MARKET REPORT.

RECEIPTS INTO BOMBAY.

Bombay, Feb. 28th.

In full-pressed Bales.	26 2 27	Since 1st September This Year	Last Year
Khandesh	291	2,95,808	2,62,854
Central India ..	2,787	2,16,929	2,86,011
Barsi and Nagar ..	503	1,62,881	1,55,429
Hyderabad-Gaorani	190	5,,040	56,.3.
Berar	3,635	4,67,448	3,67,432
Central Provinces ..	2,460	1,81,983	1,80, 10
Total Oomras	9,9.2	13,80,589	12,98,071
Dholera ..	3, 79	71,806	1,44,436
N. W. Provinces	92	52 164	1,24,.06
Rajputana	601	28,109	71,545
Sind-Punjab ..	299	80,393	1,86,…
Broach	1,248	8,246	1,69,750
Coompta & Dharwar	185	22,230	10,493
Westerns- Northerns	134	9,948	10,112
Cocoanada		395	1,473
Tinnevelly and Cambodia	3	4,670	6,513
Persian		3,016	2,167
American		85,608	200
Egyptian and African		25,032	34,54.
Comilla, Burma & Other sorts.		50	459
Total	15,963	17,76,256	20,55,96.

EXPORTS FROM BOMBAY

In full pressed Bales.	25 2 27	1st Sept. to 24th Feb. This year,	Last year
Europe	1,740	1,.9,977	2,85.336
Japan & China ..	20,275	6,87,192	9,13,575
Coast Ports ..		7,043	14,367
Up-country by Rail		55,467	45,95.
Afloat in harbour for Europe China and Japan		1,55,946	1,30,59.
	31,045	10,66,125	13 59,60.

SILVER MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

Following easier Chinese Exchange and in expectation of import duty in the Budget to-day the market ruled weak, Fagan touching low at 59/10 and Chaitra at 59/9. The close was steady as under:—

Ready Silver	60	6	0
Fagan delivery	60	2	0
Chaitra delivery	60	1	0
Double options premium.			
Fagan	1	14	0
Chaitra	2	12	0

GOLD MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

The market is very steady and closing quotations remained as under:—

Ready Gold Bar	21	10	0
Fagan delivery	21	9	6
Chaitra delivery	21	10	6

LONDON RUBBER.

London, Feb. 26.

Smoked Sheet, Standard, Ribbed, lb. Spot:
Buyers sh. 1/7-1/2d.
Sellers sh. 1/7-5/8d.
Pale Crepe, lb. Spot:—
Buyers sh. 1/7-1/4d.
Sellers sh. 1/7-3/8d.
Market:—Fair business is reported.

STOCK EXCHANGE.

BOMBAY, Feb. 28.

Cotton mill shares opened firm and improved Rs. 10 but again closed little quiet on profit-taking.

To-day being the last day of the settlement the transfer rates were much lower than Saturday. Only B. Dyeing, Tata Hydro & Steel transfers were high. The undertone of the market is steady.

We quote:—B. Dyeing 937-8, Fazal 930, Century 428-12, Pearl 552-8, Indore 357-8, Nagpur 532-8, Swades 531-4, Colaba 145, New Great 331-4, Simplex 158-12.

B. Burma 597-8, Tram 135, Tata Hydro 1026-4, Tata Def. 166-4, Tata Ord. 58-4.

LOCAL BANKS.	Paid up Rs.	Last Divid	Quotations Rs.	as
Bank of India ..	50	1-2	75xd	
Baroda	50	4	85	
Central Co-operative ..	50	1-2	68	8
Central	25	1-4	30	4
Eastern ..	£5.	9 p.c.	82	
Imperial ..	500	40	1467	8
Imperial Contributory ..	125	10	375	
Union	5	0	3	14
CEMENTS AND MANAGANESE.				
Bundi	10	..	19	4
Central India Mining ..	10	4-8Y	29	
Indian Cement O.	350	..	125	
Katni Cement O.	100	..	142	8
Katni Cement D.	40	..	402	8
Punjab Cement O.	10	..	6	6
Shivrajpur ..	10	8Y.	50	12
RAILWAY COMPANIES.				
Ahmedabad Prantej	500	11 p.c.	905	
Amritsar Pattis	100	10 p.c.	150	
Central Province	700	70 p.c.	104	
Dhond Baramati	100	6 p.c.	99xd	
Hoshirapur Doab	100	5 p.c.	90	
Hoshiarpur Doab	100	5 p.c.	99xd	
Larkhana ..	100	5 p.c.	85	
Mandra Bhon ..	90	5 p.c.	83	
Pachora Jammsi	100	5 p.c.	89 XD	
Sara Sirajgunj	100	5 p.c.	98 XD	
Sialkot Narowal	100	5 p.c.	111	
Sind Light ..	100	12 p.c.	151	
Tapti Valley ..	500	8 p.c.	715	8
Upper Sind Light	100	4 p.c.	77	
STEAMER COMPANIES.				
Bombay Steam Navigation Co	250	..	186	4
Bombay Steam Navigation P.	350	..	235	
Scindia Steam	15/0	..	13	6
ELECTRIC UNDERTAKINGS.				
Ahmedabad Electricity ..	100	5 p.c.	81	
Andhra Valley O	1,000	..	820	
Andhra Valley P.	1,000	..	970	
Bombay Tramways O. ..	50	2-8	135	
Bombay Tramways P... ..	50	3-8	66 8 XD	
Karachi Electricity	100	6	98	
Surat Electricity	100	..	70	
Tata Hydro-Elec. O. ..	1,000	40	1026	4
Tata Hydro-Elec. P. ..	1,000	7. p.c.	985	
Tata Power O...	1,000	..	577	8
Tata Power P.	1,000	..	840	
PRESS COMPANIES.				
Barsi Press ..			435	
Akbari ..	500	..	160	
Fort	475	..	300	
Harvey & Saba-Pathy ..	500	20-35	1040	
Indian Cotton ..	126	20	220	
Manmad Manufacturing ..	250	..	220	
New Berar ..	500	80	840	
New East India	1,000	..	975	
New Mofussil P.	400	40	545	
New Prince of Wales ..	500	61	510	
Volkart U.P. ..	500	40	504	
MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.				
Alcock Ashdown	100	..	250	
Belapur Co. Ltd.	76	..	19	8
B. Burma T. Corporation	125	20	597 8	
B. Burm T. Corporation New	0	8	176	4
Burma Corporation	10	0-6	10	
Bomaby Uganda	80	nil	47	
British Burma Petroleum ..	8	0-6-9	6	1
Indo Burma Petroleum ..	100	..	182	8
Jost Engineering	100	10	135	
Mackenzie ..	100	30	340	
New Union Flour Mills	100	50	30	
Port Canning ..	1,000	50Y	650	
Sarda Carbonic Gas	100	3-12-14	25	
Tata Iron Pref. 1st.	150	6 p.c.y	127	8
Tata Iron Pref. 2nd.	150	..	76	12
Tata Iron and steel Def. ..		30	166	4
Tata Iron and Steel Co.	75	..	58	4
Thacker ..	50	..	112	
Telephone ..	50	Nil	40	
INSURANCE COMPANIES.				
Empire of India	60	228	950	
Industrial & Prudential ..	6	1-4 p.c.	4	11
Jupiter				
New India ..	25	..	21	4
Oriental Life ..	100	30 p.c.	1450	
Vulcan	10	0 8 0	5	
MILLS.				
Ahmedabad Advance ..	100	10	415	
Alliance ..	100	..	30	
Apollo	50	..	8	8
Assur Virjee ..	100	..	3	
Berar Mangf. ..	200	30	210	
Bombay Cotton Co.	50	15	305	

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

3 1/2 per cent Rupee Paper Rs. 77/4.

4 per cent Conversion Loan due 1931/36. Rs. 94/8.

4 per cent Loan due 1960/70 Rs. 88/2.

5 per cent War Loan due 1929/47 Rs. 101/4.

5 Per cent Loan due 1935 Rs. 102/4.

5 per cent Loan (Tax Free) due 1938 Rs. 103.

5 per cent Loan (Tax Free) due 1945/55. Rs. 107/.

5½ per cent War Bonds (Tax Free) due 1928 Rs. 105/12.

6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1927 Rs. 100/12.

6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1930 Rs 104/10.

6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1931 Rs. 105/10.

6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1939 Rs. 106/10.

6 1/2 per cent Bombay Devp. Loan (Tax Free) due 1935 Rs. 112/4.

4 per cent. Port Trust due 1974 Rs. 87/8.

4 per cent Municipal due 1974 Rs. 86-8.

4 per cent Improvement Trust 1974 Rs. 86/8

6 per cent Bombay Municipal due 1954 Rs. 112-8.

6 per cent Municipal due 1929-49 Rs. 103

Tone of market:—Quiet. Forward rates for 3 1/2 per cent Rs. 77/5; 1945/55. Rs. 107/2.

Bombay Cotton P.	10	5 p.c.	5	8
Bombay Dyeing etc.	250	25	937	8
Bombay Industrial	108		8	
Bombay Woollen	100	..	70	
Bradbury ..	250	nil	290	
Broach Fine Counts ..	250	..	433	12
Century ..	100	zoy	428	12
Central India O.	10	16	531	4
Central India P.	500	5 p.c.	475	
Ceylon	100	..	40	
Colaba Land Mill	100	65	145	
Crescent ..	100	4	191	4
Cnrimbhoy ..	250	..	260	
Cavid	500	..	240	
Kuria	100	..	145	
Dawan	250	55	740	
E.D. Sasson United O. ..	7-8	..	1-4-0	
Ebrahimbhoy Pabanay	250	nil	266	4
Edward Sasson ..	200	nil	132	8
Elphinstone O. ..	700	..	28	
Emperor Edward ..	500	..	215	
Fazulbhoy	100	25	930	
Finlay	1,000	..	146	4
Framjee Petit	100	..	650	
Gokak	100	5	127	8
Hindoostan	1,000	125	1640	
Indian Bleaching etc.	1,000	751	171	4
Indian Manufacturing	1,000	751	1045	
Indore-Malwa United	100	10	357	8
Jamashed O.	250	..	75	
Khatau Makanjee ..	Nil	..	102	8
Kilachand	25	..	3	8
Kohinoor	500	..	1165	
Lakshmi Cotton	1,000	150	5970	
Madhavrao Scindia ..	100	..	25	
Madhowj Dharamsi	100	..	131	4
Madras United ..	250	15	485	
Mancekjee Petit ..	1,000	30	1870	
Mathradas	100	...	77	4
Meyer Sassoon ..	100	..	90	
Morarjee Goculedas ..	1,000	..	2200	
Model Mills, Nagpur ..	250	..	132	8
Mysore	53	4	120	
New City of Bombay	100	10	172	8
New Great Eastern ..	300	nil	331	4
Osmanshbai (100) ..	75	..	60	
Pearl	250	8	552	8
Phoenix	100	10	430	
Premier..	100	..	11	
Sassoon Cotton ..	100	..	20	
Sassoon Silk	500	..	605	
Sholapur	1,000	200	8200	
Simplex	100	..	158	12
Sir Shapurji, Broacha	100	..	32	8
Standard	500		1625	
Swadeshi	500	..	531	4
Swan	00	..	160	
Tata Mill O.	5	..	102	8
Vishnu Cotton O. ..		90	2550	
Vishnu P.	500	35	590	
Western India Spng, ..	1,000	50y	875	

SHARE-MARKET FLUCTUATIONS.

Ahmedabad	427 8
Bombay Cotton	.. 305
Bombay Dyeing	938 12 945 937 8 937 8
Century	435 438 12 428 12 428 12
Central India	527 8 533 12 526 4 532 8
Colaba Land	145
Crescent	191 4
Edward Sassoon	131 4
Fazulbhoy	931 4 935 927 8 930
Finlays	146 4
Globe	40
Gokak	127 8
Indian Bleaching..	171 4
Indore Malwa ..	357 8
Kohinoor	1165
Madhowjee	..132 8
Mathuradas	77 8
Meyer Sassoon	90
Mysore	120
New Great	332 8 335 331 4 331 4
Pearl ..	266 4 550 556 4 547 8 552 3
Pabany	.. 266 5
Phoenix	430
Simplex	158 12
Swadeshi ..	531 4
Swan Mills	160
Tata Mills	102 8

MISCELLANEOUS.

Alcock ..	250
Bombay Steam	186 4
Bundi Cement	19 4
Central Indian Mining	29
Indian Cement ..	125
Katni Cement ord.	142 8
Shivrajpur	.. 50 12
Tram Co. Ord.	131 6 135 135
Tata Hydro	1031 4 1032 8 1026 4 1026
Tata Iron&Steel ord.	58 4 58 8 58 4 58 4
Tata Iron & Steel Def.	170 170 166 4 166 4
Govt. paper : /2 per cent. ..	77 8
Govt. Paper 5 per cent ..	107 8

OUR GROWTH.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA grows in years but it never grows old. The passing of time merely serves to enlarge its experience, increase its strength and to renew the progressive spirit of youth which it always maintains.

	JUNE 1916.	JUNE 1926.
CAPITAL	Rs. 30,00,000	Rs. 3,36,00,000
RESERVE	„ 1,60,000	„ 1,00,00,000
DEPOSITS	„ 85,00,000	„ 15,93,34,000

Its life and service are dedicated to these purposes:—

To safeguard your moneys.
To further your interest.

S. N. POCHKHANAWALA, Managing Director.

A HAPPY AUGURY.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF S. AFRICAN DELEGATION.

SIR P. C. SETHNA OPTIMISTIC.

In the course of his speech made in the Council of State supporting the resolution of Sir D. E. Wacha appreciating the results achieved by the Government of India's delegation to South Africa, Sir P. C. Sethna said:

I am sure it is as gratifying to the Honble Sir Muhammad Habibullah the Leader of our House who by a happy coincidence was also the Leader of the Government of India Delegation to the Round Table Conference at Cape Town in South Africa, as also to the Deputy Leader the Hon. Mr. Corbett, as it is to myself, who are all three members of this House and served on the Delegation, to hear the favourable comments made on the work of the Conference by the speakers who have preceded me and to read what comments have already appeared in the Press.

The public in this counttry does not always get our Government to see eye to eye with them on many important points. On the South African question, however, we are greatly indebted to the Government of India for the very firm stand taken by them on the lines desired by the Indian public from the time that Lord Hardinge was Viceroy. His successors were as determined, and carried on the struggle and it will redound greatly to the credit of His Excellency Lord Irwin that within a year of his assuming the Viceroyalty he and his Government have achieved such good results. If the Government of India Delegation has achieved any success we as members of the Delegation cannot ignore the yeoman service rendered by the Deputation which preceded us a year earlier. That Deputation laid a solid and strong foundation on which we have been able to raise a superstructure which we confidently believe will get stronger and stronger as time goes on. It was fortunate that the Chairman of the Deputation Mr. (now) Sir George Paddison was included in the Delegation and we had the benefit of having the same excellent Secretary Mr. G. S. Bajpai.

The position a year ago was indeed very acute and the passing of the Areas Reservation Bill into an act would have meant nothing short of a compulsory driving out of Asiatics bag and baggage from South Africa. If therefore the Delegation had succeeded in doing nothing more than have the Bill withdrawn it would have been credited for having succeeded in its purpose but I am sure the House will admit that the Delegation has done far more. All what has been accomplished is detailed in the annexure to the announcement copies of which were handed to us in this House two days ago. It is not necessary for me therefore to refer to them at any length.

"DANGER POINTS."

Those who are best in a position to criticise are persons like Mahatma Gandhi than whom no one has had a closer and more intimate acquaintance with the South African question and persons like Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Rev. Mr. Charles Andrews who have first hand knowledge of the subject. It is gratifying to us therefore that such critics have approved of the work of the Delegation. The Mahatma calls is a settlement honorable to both parties and adds that it is not the best that can be conceived but it is the best that was possible. He has however drawn attention to what he calls some "danger points." He believes that because Repatriation is called 'assisted emigration' the Union Government may arrange to send Asiatics to parts of the world like Fiji or British Guiana where we would not like them to go. It was clearly understood at the Conference that the Government of India would help South African returned Indians to go to Ceylon or the Straits Settlements with the Governments of which countries we have arrangements for emigration. If the Union Government want to send them elsewhere they would have to consult the Government of India and our Government could withhold their consent. Again Mr. Gandhi has not much faith in any good resulting from the appointment of Advisory Committees of Indians for sanitation and housing. I am sure his friend Mr. Andrews will be able to convince him that it was such association of Indians wit the authorities that helped quite recently to stamp out the small pox epidemic in Durban.

Whilst we were on the return voyage Mr. Andrews wired to the "Indian Daily Mail" that (1) India's dignity is now unstintedly recognised (2) her social status upheld, (3) a friendly atmosphere now regarded as normal and anti-Asiatic outbursts discredited and (4) a determination has been reached to settle everything in future by Conference and not by force.

"A HAPPY AUGURY."

We have heard it said that the Delegation have not secured Municipal or Parliamentary franchise for Indians in South Africa. To such critics I would say enough is as good as a feast' and we dared not ask for more for fear of risking what we had secured. The admission by the Hon. Dr. Malan, the Minister for the Interrior that "it is the duty of every civilised Government to devise ways and means and to make all possible steps for the uplifting of every section of their permanent population to the full extent of their capacity and opportunities" is a most happy augury. It enunciates the axiom laid down by Cecil Rhodes of "equal rights for all civilized people." This gives us hope that with educational and other progress in due course of time, franchise will not be denied to the Indians. Time will not permit me to refer to the subjects of trading licenses, industrial laws, etc. I will only say in brief that no important item escaped the Conference and as a result of our discussions we feel there will be all all-round improvement as years goe on. It is true that trade licenses are not given to Indians to-day as freely as in the past and this is because the giving of a license is in the hands of Municipalities but even then the total of licenses has not decreaed. Competition is not so much with the Dutch or with the British Sotuh Africans as with members of the Jewish community who are evidently in a position to influence Municipal Councillors better. Our Indian friends told us that they can safely rely on getting justice in the matter of licenses if only they were allowed to appeal to the highest tribunal. We have asked for such right of appeal and we expect that when the licensing laws are next taken up for revision the Union Government will pay heed to our request."

After paying a tribute to the skilful leadership of Sir Mahomed Habibullah, and to Mr. Sastri's wonderful personality, and to the South African members for their conciliatory spirit, Sir P. C. Sethna continued:—"Not only was General Hertzog himself throughout actuated by this spirit of his friendliness but so also was Dr. Malan who presided at the meetings of the Conference and likewise the other Union Delegates and to every single one of them we are greatly indebted and I must not omit to mention the cordial sympathy extended to our cause by the Governor-General of South Africa. To what extent South African opinion has veered round may be judged by a telegram to the London "Times" from its correspondent at Cape Town which was published in London a day before we left Cape Town. It reads:—

"The Conference has been a triumph for personal consultation. Relations between the Delegates of the Indian and the Union Governments have been uniformly most cordial, and the Indian Delegation leaves for India in a gratified frame of mind. The principle of direct dealing between the two Governments thus found successful, may be developed beneficially in future."

THE BOMBAY BUDGET.

GOVERNMENT'S PRESENT POLICY CONDEMNED.

Under the auspices of the Indian Institute of Political and Social Science, Mr. S. G. Warty, M.A., delivered a public lecture on "The Bombay Budget for 1927-28" on Saturday, evening at the Servants of India Society's Hall, Sandhurst Road, Girgaon, Bombay, Prof. P. A. Wadia, M.A., presiding.

Mr. Warty condemned the present policy of the Government and said the expenditure was more than the receipts. The deficit of Rs. 50 lacs in the present budget he attributed to the extravagance of the Government and said further taxation was impossible. The only way out was retrenchment and advised to carry on the expenditure on the basis of 1925-26 budget which was Rs. 15 crores, viz. Rs. one crore less than the budget of 1926-27. He advised Indianisation of service and abolition of two ministerships and two posts of executive councillors instead of four. Also he suggested to do away with the posts of Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Collectors and Chief Conservator of Forests and reduce the grade of provincial service starting from Rs. 200 and ending with Rs. 500 only.

Mr. C. S. Deole, who followed Mr. Warty did not find fault with the Finance Minister and said no other man could have done better in his place. He advised overhauling of the whole machinery of the Government and showed from the charge attached to the budget of 1927-28 that expenditure in 1917-18 was Rs. 7 crores while in 1921-22 it increased to Rs. 15 crores. That was due to the reforms which were faulty and expensive.

FOR THE UNEMPLOYED OF ENGLAND.

Prof. P. A. Wadia in winding up the procedings said while discussing budgets, provincial or imperial, Indians should always remember that British people have conquered them and that unemployment had been increasing in England in the last few years. As rulers therefore they should have advantages secured to them, for according to them the principles of Government were not based on the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. The last great war was fought in the interests of India and if a few Britishers came to India on high salaries, Indians should not grudge. (Laughter). Likewise they should take the same way in regard to the Development Department which was supposed to be in the interests of Bombay but in reality for the unemployed of England. (Laughter).

POSITION WITHOUT POWER.

Referring to the ministership, he said, no self-respecting Indian should accept this position for it was like enjoying a position without power. He considered the reforms a sham and hypocrisy becuse it was a clearly devised machinery to give a form of responsibility without substance. He urged Indians not to form parties among themselves but have only one party in the interest of India to fight against the Government.

MAHATMA'S TOUR PROGRAMME

BELGAUM, Feb. 27.

Gandhiji comes to Karnatak from Hardwar on March 27 and will tour the districts till April 4. After that he will proceed to Madras and will be there for a week. From April 12 to April 19, Gandhiji will tour in the Mysore State. From April 20 he will again tour in Tamil Nadu in the course of which he will visit some parts of Kerala and Mangalore. The tour is expected to end in the middle of June.—Free Press.

Major Fraser, Political Agent, Eastern Kathiawar Agency camped at Vaia, Kathiawar lately. The visit was official and the townspeople and villagers assembled in great number to witness the different ceremonies, sports, scouting and prize-giving functions arranged by the Thakor Saheb Vakhatsinhji.

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

S.S. "Baroda," Captain Maclean, from Buseh.

S.S. "Gogra," Captain Cuffyn, from Calcutta.

S.S. "Ryen Maru," Captain Ito, from Calcutta.

S.S. "Lanterfels," Captain Stykers, from Hamburg.

S.S. "Nurjehan," Captain Robb, from Rangoon.

S.S. "Elysia," Captain Duncan, from Liverpool.

S.S. "City of Harvard," Captain Larger, from Liverpool

S.S. "Hatipara," Captain Wilson, from Java.

S.S. "Awa Maru," Captain Hori, from Kobe.

DEPARTURES.

Bombay, March 1.

S.S. "Olivebank," Captain Kongal, for Calcutta.

S.S. "Havildar," Captain Palmer, for Calcutta.

LOADING.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

Steamer "Lanterfels" for Hamburg.

S.S. "Baroda":—The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer "Baroda," arrived in harbour yesterday from Liverpool, with a general cargo and passengers.

S.S. "Gogra":—The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer "Gogra," arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta, with a general cargo.

S.S. "Lanterfels":—The L. Edward Ltd., steamer "Lanterfels," arrived in harbour yesterday from Hamburg, with a general cargo.

S.S. "Elysia":—The Graham T. Company's steamer "Elysia," arrived in harbour yesetrday from Liverpool, with a general cargo and passenger.

S.S. "City of Harward":—The K. N. Company's steamer "City of Harward," arrived in harbour yesterday from Liverpool, with a general cargo and passengers.

S.S. "Hatipara":—The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer "Hatipara," arrived in harbour yesterday from Java, with a cargo of sugar.

S.S. "Nurjehan":—The T. M. Company's steamer "Nurjehan," arrived in harbour yesterday from Rangoon with a cargo of rice.

S.S. "Awa Maru":—The N Y. K. steamer "Awa Maru," arrived in harbour yesterday from Kobe, with a general cargo and passengers.

S.S. "Olivebank":—The F. F. Campbell Company's steamer "Olivebank," will sail to-day from Bombay harbour for Calcutta, with a general cargo.

S.S. "Havildar":—The T. M. Company's steamer "Havildar," will sail to-day from Bombay harbour for Calcutta, with a general cargo.

IMPORTS.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

S.S. "Havildar," Agents: Turner Morrison and Co.:—

From Calcutta:—19 cases coffee; 8 cases heavy cupgreases; 17 bundles old gunnies; 20 boxes black japan; 6 boxes shellac varnish; 1 boxes French polish.

From Madras:—10 cases codliver oil; 9 bales sheepskins; 9 bundles hing; 21 bundles white wool.

From Cuddlore:—1,102 bags groundnut kernels.

From Tutocorin:—30 cases hing; 11 kegs aniline dyes; 10 bales cotton yarn; 12 cases cardamons; 14 bags tea dust.

From Ponani:—1,630 bags cocoanuts.

From Calicut:—42 half chests black tea; 190 bags copra; 116 bags cocoanuts; 233 baskets dry ginger; 131 bags wild turmeric; 55 jottas coir yarn; 83 jottas coir rope; 48 bales cotton refuse.

From Tellicherri:—65 bags coffee; 82 bags light pepper; 150 bags cocoanuts.

From Cannanore:—994 bags cocoanuts; 17 bags light pepper; 23 bags soapnuts; 4 bales cotton piecegoods.

S.S. "Masula" Agents: M. M. and Co.

From Rangoon:—30,328 bags rice; 3,964 bars pig lead; 387 bags moong; 73 bags chora; 2 cases cotton hosiery; 8 cases cigars; 39 cases cutch; 2 cases tobacco; 2 bundles tea; 4 cases and 12 tins provisions; 42,638 pieces and 13,762 bundles teak scantlings; 880 pieces teak squares; 4,011 pieces and 430 bundles teak pests; 336 bundles, 188 pieces teak boards; 389 pieces teak planks.

From Calicut:—30 cases tea; 3 bales cotton; 161 cases soap; 206 bags cocoanuts; 100 bags copra; 745 pieces teak scantlings.

EXPORTS.

Bombay, Feb. 28.

S.S. "Baron Kelvin" for Dunkirk:—1,100 tons manganese ore, T. Morrisen and Co.

S.S. "Rampura" for London.—12 bales calf skins tanned, M. Ludak.

S.S. "City of Harward" for Hull:—6,000 cwt. castorseed, David Sassoon and Co.

For Barcelona:—150 bales cotton, B. Karsondas and Co.; 500 cwts. myrabollams, C. Jivanlal and Co.

S.S. "Elysia" for Liverpool:—1,581 cwt. myrabolams, K. Megjee; 2,000 tons manganese ore, James Finlay and Co.; 2,000 cwt. myrabolams, G. Mawji; 4,235 cwt. myrabolams, C. Jivanlal and Co.

For Barcelona:—50 bales cotton, F. F. Campbell and Co.; 1,120 cwt. vateria seed, Mugaseth and Sons.

S.S. "Argenfels for Antwerp:—2,656 cwt. myrabolams, K. Megji; 8 casks wet casings, Ad. Meyer; 210 cwt. gum ghatty, N. Mulji and Co.; 10 cwt. buffalo horns, J. Rahimtoola.

For Aarhus:—50 bales hemp, F. F. Campbell and Co.

For Bremen:—224 bales cotton, Ralli Bros.

For Hamburg:—371 bales cotton, Ralli Bros.; 10 cases dry casings, Ad. Meyer; 58 cwt. gum arabic, E. Veerji and Co.; 26 bales cotton waste, Chiihateg and TharKersey and Co.; 322 cwt. gum kuraya, N. Mulji and Co., 314 bales cottonfly, Textile Products.

For Rotterdam:—56 bales cotton, Ralli Bros.; 220 bales cottonfly, Textile Products.

S.S. Hoogkerk" for Antwerp:—220 bales cotton, Volkart Bros.

For Rotterdam:—110 bales cotton, Ralli Bros.; 100 cwts mustard seed, Volkart Bros.

For Hamburg:—140 cwt. groundnut oil cakes, S. Banistar and Co.

S.S. "Lanterfels" for Hamburgg:—1,995 cwts. groundnut oil cakes, S. Purshottam.

S.S. "Aquileia" for Genoa:—100 bales cotton raw, Japan Cotton Trading Co.; 424 bales cotton raw, Ralli Bros.; 165 bales cotton saw, Volkart Bros; 220 bales cotton raw, K. Devchand and Co.; 500 cwt. linseed, E. D. Sassoon and Co.

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL SOCIETIES.

MR. KELKAR'S CAUSTIC REPLY TO SIR ALEXZANDER MUDDIMAN.

GOKHALE TRAINED DOMESTIC SERVANTS?

While moving in the Assembly that his bill to further amend the Societies Registration Act, 1860, Mr. N. C. Kelkar made a detailed speech from which the following extracts are given below:—

DEFECTS OF PRESENT ACT.

"The following societies may be registered under this Act:—charitable societies, the military orphan funds or societies established at the several presidencies of India, societies established for the promotion of science, literature, or the fine arts, for instruction, the diffusion of useful knowledge, the foundation or maintenance of libraries or reading rooms for general use among the members or open to the public, or public museums and galleries of paintings and other works of art, collections of natural history, mechanical and philosophical inventions, instruments, or designs."

Now every one I think will admit that this drafting of the section is absolutely hopeless. In my opinion it is neither a good logical definition nor a good logical division. It is a failure as an attempt either at complete enumeration or at complete generalisation. It is an odd mixture of particulars and generalities. The other day I read this section to a friend who was rather witty, and he said to me it was reminiscent to him, at any rate, of a zoo rather than of Noah's ark. He was right. For noble Noah's ark was at least thoroughly exhaustive in its contents, thoroughly representative of all the beings who were to be saved from the Flood. But this section has the funny appearance of a mere Zoo in which odds and ends of exhibits are displayed as they come to hand. He was right, because there you see military orphants popping up their heads against charitable institutions and mechanical designs and inventions.

Obviously this is all very crude drafting of the section and it wants to be corrected. Now the Act does in the first place by its title provide for three things—Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies. The preamble takes it a step further. It brings in Fine Arts and purposes other than charitable purposes; and the preamble is further amplified in section 20. But it is difficult to argue that political education can, by any stretch of imagination, be brought under any of the heads mentioned in section 20. Political associations have of course in their own way to do with literature. They issue political literature but they cannot for that reason be called Societies established for the promotion of literature. Politics in itself is a fine art, but a political association is not one established for the promotion of Fine Arts. Politics again is a science, but a political association is not established for the promotion of that science. Science there means Natural Science. Political bodies do indeed provide reading-rooms and libraries as a necessary equipment of their business, and some political bodies may conceivably also concern themselves with paintings, picture galleries, busts and statues; but they concern themselves with these not as a source of political inspiration only.

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS.

Now it only remains to consider one point. It may possibly be argued that political bodies may have their purposes served, so far as funds are concerned, by Act VI of 1890, but if you look closely at the Act that misconception will be easily removed. It is no doubt an Act for the vesting and administration of property held in trust for charitable purposes; but in section 3 you at once see that it contemplates the creation of only a Treasurer for such charitable funds and he in himself is a corporation sole. So that does not provide for any combination of individual as a society. Now the only words that might appear to make my amendment superfluous are "diffusion of useful knowledge." Well, Sir, I wish that view were correct and could be upheld; but as I have already said the Bill is based upon a fact or two of experience which belie this interpretation. The Registrars might of course grant registration to political bodies wishing for registration on the assumption that they had to do something with useful knowledge. But as I said, they refused registration in some cases, whether because they regarded political education as useless knowledge or perhaps as informal knowledge; I don't know.

Now I turn to the two small amendments which I am proposing. First of all, I refer to the words "political education" which I am specifically suggesting to be inserted as an amendment; I do want political education to be recognised as one of the objects mentioned in section 20. Now by adding these words it may be said I am only adding one more category to this museum or zoo; but perhaps that is inevitable. We know that in the Hindu Society when one proceeds to break caste he is only proceeding in a manner which results in adding one more caste to the society; but that is inevitable. If I suggest one more category it is because for my purpose it is necessary. If my purpose could be otherwise served, I would not add to the difficulties of this section.

GOKHALE'S "DOMESTIC SERVANTS!"

Then as for the second amendment, that should be really acceptable because the words are "any other purpose of public utility." That I suppose is a comprehensive enough term, and it would also cover the words "or political education" and the words "useful knowledge." But in order to clear all doubts I have added both the words "political education" and the words "any other purpose of public utility." Sir, Now I said the Bill was based on one or two facts of experience. I may here relate a small joke which was current in Bombay and Poona about 20 years ago. The joke is this: About the year 1905, the late Mr. Gopal Krishna Gokhale founded the Servants of India Society. Now it happened that a Bombay Parsi merchant, with keen and lively business instincts, at once wrote to Mr. Gokhale congratulating him upon the brilliant idea of founding a society for supplying "domestic servants." Perhaps he himself was worried with domestic troubles like many of us, and he naturally looked upon Mr. Gokhale as a saviour to the contemporary generation of men distressed by the eternal problem of domestic servants. And I suppose he was also prepared to concede to Mr. Gokhale a patriotism large enough to provide domestic servants for the whole of India! When I heard that joke for the first time I said aloud to myself "Well, such is fame!" And that was the estimate which this Parsi gentleman had formed of the celebrated Mr. Gokhale.

This, of course is only the ridiculous aspect of the thing; but the serious aspect is this, that the Servants of India Society failed to secure registration at the hands of the Registrar, not in one but in two provinces. That is the fact upon which I want to lay stress. Now if Mr. Gokhale's Society had wanted to train cooks and scullions, and grooms and governesses, then perhaps he would have had no difficulty in getting his Society registered; but if instead of training governesses he was aspiring to train a few governors at his Society then of course the Society could not be registered.

There were many other incidental disadvantages to the Society as my information goes, arising out of this refusal of registration, and that was the loss of the benefit of a number of annuities which they might have got if the Society was registered one. But of course on that aspect of the question I am not going to lay any stress. I lay stress upon the right of political associations and bodies to get their registration. From these facts, it will be seen that the Act does not provide for the registration of political bodies or associations, and it will at once be conceded that the amendment which I am seeking to make is essentially useful from that point of view.

With regard to the observation made by my friend, Sir Alexander Muddiman, he said that the political education was not the real object, but incorporation was the real object. Why should he assume that a corporation which wants to set itself up as a political body intending to give political education to society and doing political propaganda in the country, why should he assume that it is not one of the objects of a political association to give political education?

The Hon. Sir Alexander Muddiman: My honourable friend has misunderstood me entirely. What I said was that this object was to get an incorporated institution. There is nothing to prevent the diffusion of political education by an unincorporated association. I understood what he wanted is incorporation.

Mr. N. C. Kelkar: Then, with regard to the suggestion that a society like that should seek registration under the Companies Act, I shall simply characterise it as fantastic. In the first place, you will see, Sir that the societies mentioned under clause 5 of the Companies Act are supposed to be societies concerning themselves in pounds, shillings and pence in business.

The Hon. Sir Alexander Muddiman: Not at all. Not in the least.

Mr. N. C. Kelkar: You read "Company having the liability of its members limited." But in the case of an association like the one I have in mind there is no question of limited liability.

"I think it is an insult to the societies which I have got in my mind and an insult to the intelligence of this House for the Hon'ble the Home Member to suggest that the kind of association which I have in view should get themselves registered under the Companies Act. Of course he has asked why the Servants of India Society did not register itself under that Act. I think if he seriously puts that question he will get an answer which will ring in his ears."

A physician writes in the "Medical Press and Circular": *"Sanatogen has an immediate and remarkable effect shown by a steady increase of strength and energy."*

Hullo! What's the trouble—Nerves?

Dame Sarah Grand, Mayoress of Bath, writes: *"Nothing ever does me so much good when I am run-down as Sanatogen. It has set me up and kept me up again and again."*

And Miss Olga Netheresole, founder of the People's League of Health, writes: *"It is with great pleasure that I recommend Sanatogen, having greatly benefited by its effects."*

"Now really, is there anything to cry about?"

"Oh, I feel so unhappy."

"Yes, so I see. But crying without any real cause can only mean one thing: Nerves. You should try Sanatogen for a few weeks. It will brace you up wonderfully and once your nerves and blood are right you will feel yourself again—more disposed to laugh than to cry. And it will give you new appetite too, and bring colour to your cheeks. It has done that very thing for me."

Sanatogen infuses into the cells of blood and nerves exactly those elements—phosphorus and albumin—from which bodily health and nerve-strength are derived. Over 24,000 physicians have written enthusiastic letters about the success they obtained with Sanatogen.

SANATOGEN

The True Tonic-Food

When you feel nervous or run-down, take Sanatogen for a few weeks and feel the difference in your own health.

Obtainable at all chemists and stores.

COW-CALF OF THREE EYES AND THREE HORNS.

(From Our Correspondent.)

GOKAK, Feb. 25.

On Thursday, the 24th instant a cow-calf of three eyes and three horns was brought to Gokak from Karikatti a village in Parsagad Taluka (Belgaum) Dt. for show.

A number of people gathered together to witness the show.

The third born is just in the middle of the two and the third eye also on the forehead.

HOME INDUSTRY.

A few days back, a young gentleman Mr. G. C. Bhide of Satara addressed a meeting on the manufacture of matches and also demonstrated the process in the New Municipal High School, Gokak.

He prepared the best matches out of card board.

DUKE OF YORK AT ROTORUA.

RUGBY, Feb. 28.

The Duke and Duchess of York in their tour of New Zealand arrived yesterday at Rotorua which is in the heart of the area famous for its hot springs, boiling geysers and other volcanic phenomena. The population is manily Maori, and the ceremonies connected with the welcome accorded to the royal visitors included native dances and many other picturesque features. The Prime Minister in his capacity as Minister for Native Affairs met the Duke and Duchess on arrival and presented the Maori chiefs who wore their kiwi feather rugs.—B. O. W.

FIFE ON LONDON BOUND STEAMER.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Port Sudan.—The British steamer "Nalgora" proceeding from Calcutta to London has sent a wireless message that she had a fire in number four shed deck, but that it had been completely brought under control.—Reuter's Special.

A correspondent writes from Karnal under date Feb. 20:—Sir James Mackenna, Sir Thomas Middleton, Prof. Ganguli, Mr. Smith and four other members of the Royal Agricultural Commission visited Karnal today. Half of the party came by train last night and had an enjoyable duck shoot in the morning. The other half came by motor from Delhi this morning. In the afternoon there was a very successful luncheon party given in honour of the members by Rukunuddowla Shamsherjang Nawab Saheb of Karnal and his brother Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, M.A. (Oxon.) Bar-at-Law, member U. P. Legislative Council at their palatial residence, the historical Ochterlony House. Besides other distinguished guests present were the Nawab Saheb of Kunjpura, Dr. and Mrs. Clouston, Mr. and Mrs. Rose, Mr. Wm. Smith, Dairy Expert, and Messrs. Beaty and Gossip. After the lunch the members of the Commission visited the Imperial cattle breeding farm and inspected the fine breed of cattle there. The party left for Delhi in the evening.

B. N. RY. STRIKE.

"MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS."

AGENT'S COMMUNIQUE.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 27.

In the course of a lengthy communique re-stating the exact facts, in view of the large amount of misrepresentation of facts regarding the dispute between the Bengal-Nagpur Railway administration and the B. N. Railway Union, the Agent of the Railway says that "the Union for more than a year past, has been conducting an intensive recruiting campaign. Allegations have been, from time to time, been made of the prevalence of unjust dismissals, and other punishments at Kharagpur. The Union, eventually, brought to the notice of the Chief Mechanical Engineer, some cases of dismissals and other punishments which they alleged had been inflicted unjustly and asked me to receive a deputation to represent the grievances of the employees. This request I readily agreed to, and the deputation met on the 24th November. A very lengthy statement of grievances had been prepared by the Union, the chief points being insecurity of service, insufficiency of pay, illtreatment and abuse of staff, and there were also a number of general grievances, such as insufficient and bad quarters, uniform, clothing and medical arrangements, and questions connected with leave, promotions, etc."

INSECURITY OF SERVICE.

"Regarding the question of insecurity of service, the Union based their case largely on dismissals from the Workshops during the past year, of about 40 employees. The Chief Mechanical Engineer undertook to review all cases, and further, the Union were allowed to have representatives present while this was being done. The review of these cases has been completed and the Chief Mechanical Engineer has marked down 20 cases for special and full enquiry with witnesses, and in the presence of the Union officials. I admit that there has been delay in these enquiries due to unrest in the Shops and the subsequent strike, but four of these cases have been taken up, and it is our intention to complete the enquiries into all cases as soon as the strike ends.

INSUFFICIENCY OF PAY.

"As to the alleged insufficiency of pay, the wages, we are giving are generally on the same level with those paid on this side of India by other railways and they are equitable. There may be unskilled labourers whose wages are on the low side, and I informed the Union that I would enquire into this and deal with it as soon as the enquiry was completed. "Regarding the charge of ill-treatment and abuse of the staff, the Union were informed that the Railway Administration strongly discountenanced either physical violence or abusive language, and that I would deal severely with any employee, whatever his grade, in any proved case.

"Each of the other points was dealt with, and on the 18th January, a full and complete reply was sent to the Union, to their representation. To this letter I have received no reply, but the Union held a mass meeting on the 30th January, at which the Agent's reply to their representation was considered unsatisfactory. It was, however, decided not to call a strike."

TRANSFER OF MR. NAIDU.

Proceeding, the Agent recalls the transfer of Mr. Naidu, Secretary of the Kharagpur Branch of the Union, which, through an unfortunate wording of the first order, was misconstrued by some workmen who went on strike, but subsequently resumed work.

After stating that, on the morning following the rioting at Kharagpur, only a few men turned up, as a result of which the Workshops were closed to avoid damage to the works, the Agent says that, later in the day, the Kharagpur Union called a general strike which was subsequently confirmed by the Central Council who called a general strike over the whole line. Turning to the present situation, he says that all passenger services are being maintained though subject to delays, and a limited goods service is being maintained throughout the line.

NO INDEPENDENT ENQUIRY.

"In regard to the Union's demand for an independent enquiry, I am not prepared to agree to such a enquiry. I have already ordered an enquiry into the cases of the men dismissed and also agreed that no man may be dismissed without a formal charge being made and a proper enquiry held.

"Examination of the scales of pay of the lower grades of the staff generally is even now being proceeded with.

"It is needless to state that all the staff have been paid the wages for January, and I think it will be conceded by any unbiassed person that the attitude of the administration has been conciliatory in the extreme. The strike has nevertheless been called and has been partially effective periods ranging from seven to 16 days on different parts of the line. Up to the present, the railway has refrained from taking on new hands except as a temporary measure. This situation, however, cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely, but I shall desire to be conciliatory, and with this in view, I have taken no action against the men who have left their work. But I hereby finally inform the staff that any man who is remaining absent from his work will have no reason to complain if, when, later, he wishes to re-join, he finds his place filled up.—A. P.

NO ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S DECISION.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 28.

It is understood the question of appointment of a committee of enquiry into the Kharagpur strike incidents was considered at a recent meeting of the Viceroy's Executive Council and that although one of the members favoured enquiry as a conciliatory gesture, it was finally agreed that no enquiry shall now be instituted and that the strikers must resume work unconditionally before the question of redress of grievances could be considered.—Free Press.

STRIKERS' RANKS SWELLED

ALLEGED INTIMIDATION.

NAGPUR, Feb. 28.

The strike of the Bengal Nagpur Railway workers at Itwari station is complete and trains are now being diverted over the old route.

The railway staff at Tumsar Road station struck work on the 26th and also many of the roadside stations are joining their comrades.

Strikers complain that there has been intimidation and false assurances are given to get them back to work.—Free Press.

FURTHER SPREAD OF STRIKE

KAMPTEE AND RAIPUR AFFECTED

NAGPUR, Feb. 28.

The latest information states that the Bengal Nagpur Railway strike has affected Kamptee and Raipur. Most of the workers there have downed tools.

Only one train is running on the Nagpur-Chindwara section.—Free Press.

STRIKERS FIRM AND PEACEFUL

MR. NAIDU OBSERVES THREE DAYS FAST

CALCUTTA, Feb. 28.

The Bengal Nagpur Railway strike situation remains unchanged. The General Secretary of the Labour Union reports further extension of the strike of menial and clerical staff on many side-stations. Mr. Naidu, Secretary, Kharagpur Branch, is on a three days fast for God's mercy to correct the misguided comrades. Anglo-Indians have been engaged at some places at fabulous prices. The trains are running late without reference to rules as regards "line-clear" lights. The strikers are firm and peaceful.—Free Press.

STRIKE SITUATION AT BILASPUR

RAILWAY TRAFFIC DISORGANISED

Mr. Tekekar, Joint Secretary, Railway Labour Union, Bilaspur, wires.

"Owing to the complete strike on the whole system of the B. N. Ry. the lives of the travelling public are said to be in danger. The official report published by the Agent is a systematic attempt to under-estimate the strike. Railway officials are alleged to minimise the proportion of the strike.

The strike at Bilaspur is quite complete and peaceful. Only three per cent of the staff is attending duties. Anglo-Indian and European employees are hard put to work and many of them, because they are not used to the difficult work done by low paid staff, are working under great hardships. Young Anglo-Indian boys have been employed on high allowances to do sundry work of cleaners, call-boys, peons and some Anglo-Indian and Eurpean ladies have been appointed on fat allowances to work as telephone exchange clerks, train controllers and cooks. The 3 Up Bombay Mail was about four hours late to-day and the Katni passenger was over six hours late.

MENIAL STAFF ON STRIKE.

The menial staff are on strike at Akaltara and Raigarh are alleged to have been intimidated and threatened, but with little success. It is said false reports of the end of strike at some places are being spread with a view to inducing the staff to resume work, but all these have proved abortive. I toured on the line and had a talk with some of the strikers of different places and they all seemed to have the same grievances as represented by the Union. This gives a direct reply to the Agent's statement that the strike is due more to Union propaganda than real grievances of the staff. Responsible railway officials visited menials in the latter's quarters and tried to persuade them to resume work, but with no tangible result.

Payment of wages to the traffic, clerical and menial staff at Bilaspur was made yesterday. Some responsible railway officers who witnessed the payment are reported to have expressed their solicitude for the welfare of the employees by asking some of the employees the length of their services, and when told that the strikers had put in 18, 22, 25 and even 30 years, to have expressed their great concern for them. The employees, though on strike, know which way lies their good, and are not sorry for the step they have taken. Some dismissed hands of the railway are trying to exploit the opportunity, but so far their overtures have been disregarded.—Free Press.

"UNITE AGAINST BOLSHEVISM"

SUN'S ADDRESS TO THE TROOPS.

JOINT STAND AGAINST CANTONESE

LONDON, Feb. 28.

Sun Chuan Fang and Chant Sung Chang have returned from Sungkiang, twenty miles southwest of Shanghai, where the strengthening of defences against the Cantonese are being continued and battery positions are being constructed. They, however, did not inspect them; indeed they did not leave the station. But Sun took the opportunity to address 4,000 troops for an hour, the gist of his address being that they should now be united with Shantungites in their fight against Bolshevism.—Reuter.

SUN AND CHANG'S MOVE.

TO MAKE A STAND AGAINST CANTONESE

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Shanghai.—San-Chuan-Fang and Chang-Tsun-Chang travelled by the same train from Nanking here, and thence to Sun-kiang where they will prepare to make a stand against the Cantonese. The working arrangement between the two is not disclosed, but it is thought that Chang although he hates Sun fears that Sun's elimination will mean that Sun's troops will go to the Cantonese, thereby seriously threatening Chang's position in Shanghai and Nanking. It is reported from Peking that Sun will defend the territory east of Taihu Lake, and, therefore, Shanghai and Chang territory west of Taihu, and, therefore, Nanking. It is possible that the Southerners will concentrate on the latter.—Reuter.

SUN TO RETIRE INTO PRIVATE LIFE?

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Hongkong.—It is reported that when Sun Chuan Fang returns from Sunkiang he will retire into private life within the international settlement leaving Chang-Tsun Chang in complete control.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI QUIET.

RUGBY, Feb. 28.

The situation in Shanghai is more tranquil and press reports state that the precautionary military measures taken by the British have had marked moral effects.—B. O. W.

ONE-HOUR STRIKE MOVEMENT FAILS

LONDON, Feb. 28.

Shanghai.—General Labour Union's efforts to bring about workers one-hour strike as a protest against the landing of the British troops have hitherto received no response.—Reuter.

THOUSAND MARINES ARRIVE IN SHANGHAI

SHANGHAI, Feb. 28.

"Minnesota" has arrived here with thousand marines.—Reuter.

MORE BRITISH TROOPS REACH HONG KONG.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Hongkong.—The "Kildonan Castle" has arrived with First Devons.—Reuter.

BIRKENHEAD DEFENDS BRITISH MEASURES.

RUGBY, Feb. 28.

Lord Birkenhead, in a speech at Birkenhead, yesterday, said that Government had to decide a month ago whether their countrymen were to suffer under the existing conditions in China. They knew that a battle must take place within 100 miles of Shanghai. It was certain that whichever side won, fugitives from the defeated army would fall back in violent confusion upon Shanghai and they had seen, by far too many illustrations of what either a fugitive or undisciplined military would do when they found themselves in the British community. The community in Shanghai included some thousands of British people and great sums of money had been invested there under the protection of Treaties solemnly guaranteed in order to carry on bussiness and encouraged equally by the Government of China as the Government of Britain. Reasonable and moderate precautions for protecting that community from being destroyed and their property looted became essential, and the only possible course was taken when Government decided to send the force which the British representatives on the spot deemed necessary for that purpose.—B. O. W.

COL. FRANK J. AGABEG DEAD

LONDON, Feb. 28.

The death has occurred of Colonel Frank Joseph Agabeg, formerly President of the Mining and Geological Institute, India.—Reuter's Special.

The Governor of Bombay and Lady Wilson were present at the Finals of the Western India Tennis Tournament and Lady Wilson gave away the prizes on Monday the 28th February.

"INSOLENT" SOVIET NOTE.

RUPTURE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS LIKELY?

LONDON, Feb. 27.

The Russian reply to the British note is couched in terms which were expected in well-informed political quarters in London where it was not anticipated that the Soviet would in any way commit itself or admit responsibility for the propaganda. Those supporters of Government who criticise the British note as timid consider the Soviet note insolent. It is understood they will press all the more strongly for the abrogation of the Trade Agreement and even rupture of diplomatic relations. Although their view is not shared by official quarters they regard the British note in the light of an ultimatum. Political circles express the opinion that the British Government will have to follow up the note by some action, although the precise nature of the action is not clear. It is considered possible that Government will decide to denounce the Trade Agreement allowing diplomatic relations to continue, but opinion is divided with regard to the wisdom of this course.—Reuter.

SOVIET "DEFIANCE"

BITTER ENGLISH PRESS COMMENTS.

LONDON, Feb. 28.

The morning papers generally receive the Russian Note very coldly and describe it as vague, insolent and evasive. "The Times" declares that Government would do well to ignore it altogether. It is a mixture of misstatements, false charges and vague professions of pacific intentions, answer to which has already been given in Sir A. Chamberlain's Note. The matter should for the moment be allowed to rest there since a protracted controversy would merely complicate the foreign situation in China which is far from being unconnected with Soviet intrigue, but is better handled by itself.

The "Morning Post" says that despite hypocritical professions the reply breathes a defiant refusal to desist from the courses which provoked Sir A. Chamberlain's Note.

The "Daily Telegraph" says that the reply is a voluminous outpouring of evasive verbiage and recrimination. It is quite worthless for the purpose for which it was nominally intended. It is not for our Government to accept the challenge to enter into dispute on a matter which is incontrovertible and upon which its own attitude has been stated in sufficiently plain terms.

"BLACKGUARDS' FULFILMENT."

The "Daily Mail" says that the Note is insolent, mendacious and diffuse. "In authorising Sir A. Chamberlain to despatch his protest Government has exposed itself to the almost proverbial consequence that he who handys words with blackguards must accept to be insulted. This expectation Moscow has promptly and characteristically fulfilled".

The "Daily Chronicle" says that the elaborate piece of special pleading does not give a specific answer. It holds out no hope save in the most general terms. However, any move away from hostility on the part of the Soviet would greatly be welcomed and reciprocated here, but in view of Moscow's past record, British public want to see its good intentions established by performance.

The "Daily News" says that the manner of reply is that of an urban headmaster rebuking more in sorrow than in anger the foolish escapade of a rebellious schoolboy.—Reuter's Special.

TERRIBLE SEA TRAGEDY

20 OUT OF 21 DROWNED

LONDON, Feb. 28.

A sea tragedy off the coast of Landsend has been revealed by the arrival at Penzance of the only survivor the Third Engineer of the Greek steamer "St. Enies" which foundered in the storm on February 25th. 20 out of the crew of 21 were drawned. The survivor who is unable to speak a word of English told his story by means of signs and drawings. When the vessel struck the rock the crew rushed from their bunks, got a boat from davits and scrambled in. The ship sank and a wave upset the lifeboat. All were thrown into the sea and drowned except the Third Engineer and fireman. The pair clung to the keel, but the fireman was swept off and perished. The Engineer held on desperately throughout the night. He was exhausted when he was picked up at dawn by a French vessel and taken to Penzance.—Reuter's Special.

FAMOUS PAINTER DEAD.

SIR LUKE FILDES.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

The death has occurred of Sir Luke Fildes.—Reuter's Special.

(Sir Luke Fildes, the well-known English painter was born at Liverpool in 1844 and trained in the South Kensington and Royal Academy Schools. At first a highly successful illustrator he took rank later among the ablest English painters with "The Casual Ward" (1874). "The Village Wedding (1883), "An at fresco Toilette" (1889); and "The Doctor" (1891) now in the National Gallery of British Art. He also painted a number of pictures of Venetian life, and many notable portraits among them the Coronation portraits of King Edward VII, and Queen Alexandra. He was knighted in 1906).

FRENCH DEBT PAYMENT PROPOSALS

COOLIDGE'S FRIENDLY RESPONSE

LONDON, Feb. 28.

Paris:—The Havas Agency says: According to "Le Matin", M. Poincare has received from President Coolidge a particularly friendly response accepting the French proposals concerning the provisional debt payments. The proposals were similar to those accepted by Britain.—Reuter.

THE BLIND EXPECT YOUR HELP TO-DAY.

To-day, Bombay's Sisters of Mercy, boy-scouts and volunteers will go round the city, street to street, and shop to shop to collect funds for the proposed Happy Home for the Blind, organised by that indefatigable lady, Bapsey Sabavalla. This is a clarion call of duty to the women and men of Bombay. Bombay's Blind expect you to help. Please give your mite to-day Yours, &c.

B. F. BHARUCHA.

H. M. S. "COLOMBO" IN CORINTO.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Corinto (Nicaragua).—H. M. S. "Colombo" has arrived. The British Charge d'Affaires has conferred with the Captain.—Reuter.

RECOGNITION OF DIAZ REGIME

BRITAIN TO FOLLOW U. S. A.

LONDON, Feb. 28.

Corinto.—After his conference with Captain Lecky on board the cruiser "Colombo" the British Charge D'Affaires has issued a statement saying that if it is necessary, Britain will be the first country after the United States to recognise Diaz regime and nothing will be done except with the co-operation of the American Admiral, Latimer.

The United States marines were fired on to-day, while they were travelling in train from Leon to Chinandega. Nobody was hit, but orders were given to return fire. Endeavour to capture the assailants proved futile.—Reuter.

COOLIDGE'S PROPOSALS

BRITISH REPLY.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

It is learned that the British note in reply to President Coolidge's disarmament proposals will be presented to Washington on 28th February. Simultaneously, Sir A. Chamberlain will make a statement on disarmament in the House of Commons in reply to Mr. Macdonald. The reply has been delayed while Government was consulting the Dominions, the last of whose replies was received at the end of last week.—Reuter.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS TO BE BOYCOTTED.

CONGRESS PARTY'S DECISION

NEW DELHI, February, 28.

The topic of conversation amongst the Congress members in the Assembly is the attitude officially taken by the Party in regard to the attendance of members at social functions attended or organised by officials and the manner in which it has been observed. Although the question of attitude towards social functions was taken on hand long ago, the Congress Party, it is understood, came to no conclusion till a few days ago.

The first public social function of the season was the "At Home" given by Lady Blackett, which came off on the 26th. Lady Blackett had invited all members of the Central Legislature, including the Congressmen. In the absence of any rule prohibiting attendance, it is understood many members wrote and accepted the invitation. Suddenly an emergent meeting of the Party was called three days' before and the desicion was taken to boycott all social functions oraganised or attended by officials. At the meeting it was pointed out by many members that they had already accepted Lady Blackett's invitation. It was resolved that even those who had accepted the invitation should abstain and that the rule regarding the boycott of social functions should apply to Lady Blackett's function.

In accordance with this decision of the Party, a whip was issued to all the members of the Congress Party asking them not to attend Lady Blackett's "At Home" In accordance with the Whip many members wrote to Lady Blackett informing her of the Party decision and asking to be excused for abstention and assuring her that no personal discorrtesy was meant.

PLEA FOR UNIFORM PRACTICE.

It is now stated that some of the Swarajists did attend the "At Home." This has led to discontent and it is understood representations are to be made to the Party Executive pointing out the desirability of uniform practice and asking that either the ban on social functions lifted or disciplinary action be taken against breaches of the Party rule. There is a strong cleavage of opinion amongst Congress members in the Assemblmly as to the wisdom of the ban on social functions. It is said that experience has shown that personal intercourse is necessary in the interest of the Assembly work. The contrary view however is that participation in social functions organised or attended by officials is inconsistent with national self-respect and that there can be no social amenities between agents of foreign rule and representatives of a subject race.—Free Press.

AFTER THE AGREEMENT

APPOINTMENT OF AGENT IN S. AFRICA.

A MOVE TO GIVE POST TO AN ENGLISHMAN?

DELHI, Feb. 28.

It is understood the question of appointment of the Agent to the Governor-General in South Africa is engaging the attention of the Government of India. Opinion is said to be divided as to the personnel. The official view, it is stated, is that the appointment must go to a person best fitted for the duty, that for some time at least an Englishman with pro-Indian sympathies would be able to get more things done for the Indian cause than an Indian who may labour under handicaps in the initial stages. Government, it is understood, favour the appointment of Sir George Paddison, the leader of the first deputation to South Africa as the first Agent to the Governor-General in South Africa.

The popular view echos Gandhiji's sentiment that the Agent must be an Indian.

The question, it is understood, came up recently before the Standing Advisory Committee on emigration, when the majority of Indian members are said to have recorded a minute expressing it as their conviction that the appointment must go to an Indian only and that if an European is to be appointed, it would expose the hollowness of the settlement by conceding that racial prejudice in South Africa is so intense that in order to get results even the Agent must be a European and not an Indian. It is said it has been urged by the signatories to the Minute that the Indian Agent would be in a position of vantage to study the needs of South African Indians and represent their case. In this connection it is definitely known that the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri has no intention of accepting the appointment, one of the main reasons being the consideration of health.—Free Press.

MEWAR PEASANTS' HARDSHIPS.

EXCESSIVE ENHANCEMENT OF TAXATION

(From Our Correspondent.)

Ajmere, February 28.

I have definite information that as result of the new settlement in Bijolia (Mewar) land revenue and duty of grass and timber have been enhanced by 12% and "chhatoond" a fedual levy by 32%. The Settlement Officer has also legalised the grazing-tax on sheep and goats to which kisans strongly object as wholly unauthorised and illegitimate. Arrears Amounting to Rs. 93868 whose validity is highly disputed by kisans have been declared as legitimate dues payable to Raoji. But transit-duty on internal trade has been reduced and one Shikargah abolished. The net result of settlement officers decisions is fresh burden on kisans of rupees ten thousand annually and ninety four thousand non-recurring.

CONFERENCE WITH RULER.

This must considerably add to the distress already reported to be prevailing among Bijolia kisans who have had three successive failures of crop. Public discontent found expression in well supported proposal in a recent meeting of kisan panchayet to abandon non-irrigated holdings wholesale. I understand that hereunder Raoji had formal conference with leading kisans and public workers on the 23rd of February and further private interview the next day. It is reported kisan grievances were admitted and early redress was promised.

SERIOUS RAILWAY COLLISION

Gauhati, February 28.

A serious railway collision took place in the early hours of the 27th instant between 31-up mixed passenger and the Assam Valley Light Horse down special in the yard of Diffu waiting station in the jungles of A.B.R., 150 miles from Gauhati.

A special train composed of eight first and second and two third-class carriages and several horse vans was standing in the yard when the passenger train rushed in and collided with the special train, smashing the horse vans and injuring the driver and the fireman. No other serious injuries have been reported.

The mixed train escaped unhurt. A relieving train brought the passengers of the mixed train and the inured to Lumding.

The line is not yet cleared and the trains are subject to heavy delays.—Free Press.

The Demonstration train when it arrived at Baraset was welcomed by a large crowd assembled on the platform. The local schools were closed early for the occasion and students, cultivators and also the educated section of the public all came to visit the train in hundreds and the Demonstrators were kept busy showing visitors round and answering questions on agriculture, co-operation, Public Health and cattle improvement etc.—Free Press.

At the Indian Museum, at Calcutta on Friday evening, Dr. C. V. Raman, F. R. S. deliver a public lecture illustrated by experiments and slides, taking as his theme, the investigation of the structure of molecules in liquids and gases by X-Rays now being carried on in his laboratory.—Free Press.

BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS.

ENGAGEMENTS.

TO-DAY.

Fancy Dress Dance at the "La Scala" at 9 p.m. in aid of the Sir Leslie Wilson's Hospital Fund by the Catholic Women's Social Guild (B.C.W.O.)

Municipal Standing Committee, 1-40 p.m.

Aga Khan Hockey: 4-15 p.m. B. E. S. Old Boys vs. B. B. and C. I. "B," 5-30 p.m. Customs vs. Parsi Cyclists.

WEDNESDAY, March 2.

Afghan Independence Celebration, Taj Mahal, 5-30 p.m.

THEOSOPHICAL LECTURE.

Mr. C. Jinaragadasa will lecture in English at the Gaiety Theatre, Fort, this (Tuesday) evening at 6-30 p.m. (S. T.) Subject:—The Vision of Gods and God. The lecture is open to the public, and seats will be reserved for ladies.

POSTAL NOTICE.

Mails from Australia via Dhanushkodi for Bombay are due on Tuesday, the 1st March, 1927.

CITY'S MORTALITY.

The following statement shows the total mortality from 6 a.m. of Sunday to 6 a.m. of Monday:—

Small-pox attacks 6, death 1; Cholera attack nil; death nil; Plague attack nil, death nil; Influenza attack 1, death 1; Total mortality (exclusive of the stillborn) 88; Total mortality this day last year was 76.

B. P. C. C. COUNCIL MEETING.

The adjourned meeting of the Council of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee will be held to-day (Tuesday) at 6-30 p.m. (S. T.) at the Congaess House.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The P. and O. mail steamer "Maloja" arrived London on Friday, the 25th instant.

VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

A variety entertainment in aid of the Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund will be held by the students of the Sydenham College of Commerce at the Gaiety Theatre on Friday (the 4th prox.) at 5-30 p.m. Tickets:—Rs. 5, 3 (reserved); Rs. 2 and 1 (unreserved). The plan and booking can be had at the College.

DEPRESSED CLASSES MISSION SOCIETY

Mr. K. G. Patade, Secretary Depressed Classes Mission Society, Poona, writes that in response to an appeal for funds by Subedar R. S. Ghatge, honorary workers of the Poona branch of the Society, who were on a tour in C. P. and Rajputana have received donations amounting to Rs. 307-3 from different persons.

BOMBAY DIAMOND MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Bombay Dimond Merchants' Association will be held on Thursday (the 3rd prox.) in the Morar Bag at 3 p.m. (S. T.) when Surajmal Lallubhai Zaveri will move the resolution to make amendments in some of the rules and regulations of the Association.

LADIES SEWING CLASS.

The Mahila Mandal Parel, which is the women's Branch of the Social Service League, Bombay conducts sewing Classes for women at the Workingmen's Institute, Parel and these classes are held daily in the afternoon. A syllabus has been drawn up and instructions in sewing and cutting are imparted according to that syllabus. Recently the students in the Junior classes were examined both in theoretical and practical work and the following students have been declared successful:—

Junior Class:—(Six month's training):—(1) Mrs. Saraswatibai Dhurandhar, (2) Miss Eliza Jojaf; (3) Mrs. Kamalabai Kulkarni; (4) Mrs. Dwarkabai Desai; (5) Miss Gulabbai Hajare; (6) Mrs. Saralabai Sethna; (7) Miss Eliza Elayaza; (8) Miss Ester Jacob; (9) Miss Rechal Monjes; (10) Mrs. Anandibai Marathe; (11) Miss Ratanbai Mahatre; (12) Miss Lila Ranganekar; (13) Mrs. Tarabai Samel; (14) Miss Vijayabai Rajadhayksh; (15) Mrs. Tarabai Desai; (16) Miss Elizabeth Ezikiel; (17) Miss Hira Varankar.

POSTAL NOTICES.

Superscribed mails for Singapore and Japan per s.s. "Manshu Maru" will be closed at the General Post Office at 2-0 p.m. on Sunday, (the 27th instant) instead of 26th instant.

Mails for Straits Settlements and China per s.s. "Tairea" via Negapatam will be closed at the General Post Office at 6 p.m. on Wednesday (the 2nd March).

Wednesday, the 2nd March, will be a Post Office holiday on account of "Maha-Shivratri." All the departments of the Bombay G. P. O., B. P. Thackersey House and the town sub-office will observe on that day the same working hours as on Sundays. The undermentioned Telegraph branches of the combined offices will remain open and work as usual: (1) Colaba; (2) Fort, St. Booking Office; (3) Masjid; (4) Mazgaon; (5) Byculla; (6) Girgaon; (7) M. Hill; (8) Tardeo; (9) Parel; (10) Dadar; (11) Dharavi; (12) Bandra and (13) Cadell Road. The remaining combined offices will be entirely closed on that day.

ADVICE TO SANGLI PEOPLE TO ORGANISE

SANGLI, Feb. 28.

The Sangli State Subjects' Conference has passed a resolution urging the appointment of an elected representative of the people in the State Council. The other resolutions passed by the Conference related to questions of primary education, relief to agriculturists and appointment of non-official presidents for local bodies. A resolution was also passed demanding representation of Indian States on the Statutory Commission expected to visit India in 1929.

Mr. Bhopatkar, in his concluding address, exhorted the people of Sangli to organise themselves and place their grievances before the Chuief Sahib who, he said, was remarkably kind and sympathetic.—A. P.

The Governor of Bombay and Lady Wilson attended the Mill Employees Durbar at the Damodhar Thackersey Hall, Parel, on Sunday.

Sir Delves Broughton arrived at Government House, Bombay, on Sunday.

TENNIS

W. I. CHAMPIONSHIPS

AN EXACTING FINAL DAY.

A record crowd turned out on the Queen's Road Courts yesterday to witness the three final matches which brought to an end the Western India Tournament. This season's tournament has been particularly interesting inasmuch as the championships have been very evenly distributed among the stars.

In the men's singles match which was contested by Pitt and Raja Iyer, a dour struggle resulted in the victory of the former after three hard sets, two of them necessitating extra advantage games. There was not much to chose between the two players, but, perhaps the versatility of the Gymkhana player gave him just that extra superiority which decided the championship in his favour.

It was surprising to see Mrs. Covell really extended as she was in her match against Miss Wallis. The latter displayed brilliant form and at one stage of the first set actually established a lead. Mrs. Covell's excellent court craft, however, was not to be beaten and she took the first set at 6—4. The second set was just as keen and interesting as its predecessor, Miss Wallis on this occasion annexing three games.

The mixed doubles final between Tomonaga and Miss Evans and England and Mrs. Hughes provided splendid tennis and thrills in galore. Both the ladies were conspicuous and did their full large share of the work. Mrs. Hughes was as energetic as ever, driving with power and ably supporting her partner. It was Miss Evans' brainy play and excellent placing which helped Tomonaga to annex the championship. Considering that so accomplished a player as R. D. England was at the net, Miss Evans deserves special praise for the adroit manner in which she foiled attempts to kill by clever low passing shots invariably achieved their object. England, perhaps, was not his usual deadly self, many of his red-hot smashes finding themelves in the net. Tomonaga, on the other hand, shone particularly well at this department, his terrific hits putting the quietus on any indiscreet stroke. Both matches were hotly contested the winning couple taking them at 7—5, 8—6. Tomonaga's victory is especially popular with enthusiasts as he has ever shown a spirit which has evoked nothing but admiration.

THE RESULT.

MEN'S SINGLES.

Pitt beat Rajah Iyer, 8—6, 5—7, 6—1.

LADIES' SINGLES.

Mrs. Covell beat Miss Wallis, 6—4, 6—3.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Tomonaga and Miss Evans beat England and Mrs. Hughes, 7—5, 8—6.

HOCKEY

AGA KHAN TOURNEY

There were two matches played in the Aga Khan Tournament yesterday, the Y. M. .C .A. defeating the Elphinstone College by one goal to nil, while the "Times of India" eliminated the Cathedral High School by three goals to one. The school began well and scored the first goal, through Abraham, but the pressmen soon asserted themselves and displaying a good understanding between themselves, equalised through Powell before half-time. In the second half they increased their score, Edwards finding the boards from a short corner, and Blake adding the third goal. The "Times" defence was excellent, the half-backs and backs being a strong combination.

AT THE EXCELSIOR

THE NEW GLOBE TROTTERS

Mr. Dick Norton and his merry Globe trotters continue to amuse theatre patrons and on Monday night he was just as good as ever. It is not often that we see a real original comedian in Bombay, and when this unusual chance does roll along we then get the opportunity of relieving our feelings and indulging in a good hearty laugh. Mr. Dick Norton is one of those people of whom one can never tire. His jokes are always delivered with that lugubrious expression which is a rare gift in stage artistes and his control over facial contortions stamp him as being unique. So far as seems clear his only disadvantage is the want of an impressive suffix such as—ski or—poff, this of course being a necessary asset to attract full houses in Bombay. His concerted items with Miss Ela Forbes were distinctly amusing while the Burlesques were cleverly performed. Mr. Dimoff as usual was a great attraction and earned several encores. The balalaika is not an instrument with a wide scope, but in the hands of this talented musician, it becomes one of the most expressive instruments imagineable. Baby Sethane, Miss Elleen Castle, Miss Bellie Conway and Mr. Leo Brooker, all helped to make up a very enjoyable programme. There will be a complete change of programme to-night.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

SUBHAS BOSE SUGGESTED FOR PRESIDENTSHIP

CALCUTTA, Feb. 28.

At a meeting of the North Calcutta District Congress Committee, held last night, the name of Mr. Subhas Bose was recommended for the Presidentship of the next Bengal Provincial Conference.—Free Press.

BOMBAY RACES.

SPRING MEETING FIRST DAY.

ACCEPTANCES.

The following are the acceptances for the races of the first day of the Spring Meeting, to be run on Wednesday. The first race starts at 3 p.m.:—

THE PALI HILL PLATE. Div. I.—Distance 1 1/4 miles.

Winner, Rs. 1,500; second, Rs. 500; third, Rs. 250. Terms for Arabs in the 3rd Class. W. A. reduced 7 lbs. Penalties—Winners since 31st March, 1925 once 7 lbs. twice 12 lbs. oftener 16 lbs. Allowance—Ponies 14 hands and under 4 lbs.

Durban 8-12; Rokis 8-11; Romania 8-10; Mahir 8-10; Young Gazelle 8-8; Mijwal 8-7; Ghurfa 8-7; Anwar 8-6; Hafak 8-5; Terror 8-5; Fallasuf 8-5; Murti 8-5; Chaldean 8-5; Mabrook 8-4; Zoba 8-1; Noormahal 7-13; Noman 7-13; Koko 7-13; Falcon 7-13; Sannam 7-6; Prince Jehan 7-6; Safee 7-6; Akra 7-6; Hadir 7-6; DeSouza 7-6.

THE PALI HILL PLATE. Div. II.—Distance 1-1/4 miles.

Winner, Rs. 1,500; second, Rs. 500; third, Rs. 250. Terms for Arabs in the 3rd Class. W. A. reduced 7 lbs. Penalties—Winners since 31st March, 1925, once 7 lbs. twice 12 lbs. oftener 16 lbs.. Allowance—Ponies 14 hands and under 4 lbs.

Nevis 9-4; Parrinshope 9-3; Azedin 9-3; Frontier Force 9-3; Nayif Pasha 7-6; Ravi 9-3; Amar 8-13; Cheerio 8-12; Rex 8-10; Arabian Sun 8-10; Ferozeshah 8-10; Ghall 8-4; Dhidhan 8-4; Rol de Lair 8-2; Falfool 8-0; Shadhan 7-13; Halfa 7-13; Abayan 7-13; Haboob 7-12; White Cross 7-9; Grey Master 7-6; Gog 7-6 Aradin 7-6; Tyrant 7-6.

THE SWINDON PLATE.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 3,000; second, Rs. 1,000; third, Rs. 500. A handicap for horses in the 3rd and 4th Class.

Riverine 9-5; Saintly Sovereign 9-4; Bell's Life 9-2; Lady Junior 9-1; Briaaul 9-0; Via Voltz 8-12; Old Fashioned Maid 8-7; Marten's Prodigy 8-6; Crushed Glass 8-1; King Pluto 8-1; Erinite 7-13; Jubilant 7-13; Pack Up 7-11; Silver Charm 7-6; Redeot 7-4; Royal Bride 7-2.

THE MELTON PLATE.. Div. I.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 4,000; second, Rs. 1,250; third, Rs. 750. Terms for Arab Ponies 14 hands and under, landed on or since 1st July, 1925, direct from the Country of toaling. 14 hands to carry 8st. 10lbs. W. I. (Landing Allwoance Clause in General Conditions does not apply.) Penalties—Winners, once, 7 lbs.; twice, 14 lbs. oftener 14 lbs.

Reality 8-10; Shahzaman 8-10; Rajkumar 8-2; Nassrat 8-10; Agent 8-10; Vershan 8-10; Maneck Pasha 8-10; Atef Beg 8-10; Dan Leno 8-10; Talisman 8-6; Hajlan 8-6; Badla 8-6 Najmuanzaman 8-2; Union 7-12.

THE ST. PATRICK'S. HANDICAP.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 5,000; second, Rs. 1,500; third, Rs. 1,000. A handicap for horses 3, 4 and 5 years, old only, in Classes 2nd and 3rd, which have not won a race value Rs. 5,000 or over or races of the aggregate value of Rs. 6,500 or over since landing.

Santook 9-1; Dalcassian 8-1, Caesonia 7-8; Henrietta 8-8; Senire 8-1; Saintly Sovereign 8-0; The Fliver 7-8; Polychrome 7-4; Ismat 7-2; Wild Flower 6-7.

THE CHEVELEY HANDICAP.. Distance 1 mile.

Winner, Rs. 7,500; second, Rs. 2,500; third, Rs. 1,250. A handicap for horses in 1st Class that have not won a race value of Rs. 12,000 or over, since 1st December, 1926 and for all horses in the 2nd Class.

Stone Marten 9-7; Joe's Luck 9-0; Kaledin 8-13; Portsoy 8-5; Katerfelto 7-8; Vainqueur 7-8; Krishna Kumari 8-7; Starboard 8-6; The Sloat 8-5.

THE LEOPARDSTOWN PLATE.—Distance 7 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 5,000; second, Rs. 1,500; third, Rs. 1,000.

Brasidas 9-0; Footpedal 8-10; The Bow 7-12; Callis 7-11; Canterbury Lamb 8-6; Hamnonla 8-6; Murmansk 8-5; Songe Dore 8-3; Vesington Planet 8-2; Fine Star 8-1; True Grace 8-0; Cuckoo 8-0; Beaver Puff 7-10.

THE MELTON PLATE.. Div. II.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 4,000; second, Rs. 1,250; third, Rs. 750. Terms for Arab Ponies 14 hands and under landed on or since 1st July, 1926.

Hawad 9-3; Misk 8-6; Maneck Beg 9-3; Ghurfa 9-3; Company 8-10; Back Bay 8-10; Sadoola 8-10; Mercury 8-10; Falfool 8-10; Joseph 8-6; Afreet 8-2; Zaki Beg 8-2; Gallant 8-2; Elixir 7-12.

GOVT. HOUSE GARDEN PARTY

The Commissioner of Police has issued the following instructions for the regulation of traffic during garden-party at Government House to-day.

The Carriages and Motor Cars of guests attending the Garden Party at Government House will enter by the Lower Gate, Walkeshwar Road, and will leave by the Upper Gate to be parked outside Government House Grounds. The departure from the Garden Party will also be by the Lower Gate. On arrival at the platform, a ticket bearing a number will be issued to the occupant and one bearing a similar number will be affixed to the conveyance. On departure, as conveyances come up, the numbers will be called, and should owners not be present on the platform their conveyances will be sent round. Guests coming in motor cars will be well advised to have licensed chaffeurs in charge of their cars, as cars ordinarily will be parked in the order in which they arrive and the later the arrival, the farther will they be from Government House. As the lower drive is very narrow and there are many horse carriages no vehicle should overtake another vehicle while passing up the lower drive towards Government House.

The opening ceremony of the Sanatan Dharma Orphanage, Delhi was peformed on Sunday night by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya.—Free Press.

Three volunteers who announced the lecture of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya with bugle were arrested at Delhi and let off on bail.—Free Press.

A general conference of Communists, socialists, trade unionists and labour organisers will be held in Delhi in March. Mr. Saklatvala will be present.—Free Press.

MR. SHAMDASANI'S SUCCESS

COMPLAINT AGAINST CENTRAL BANK

The Hon. Justices Fawcett and Patkar at the High Court disposed of the revisional application filed by Mr. P. D. Shamdasani against the order of the Chief Presidency Magistrate who dismissed his complaint against the Central Bank of India.

Mr. Shamdasani had charged the Managing Director and four other officers of the Central Bank with wilfully making false statements in the two half-yearly balance sheets for the year 1925. He alleged that though "bad" and "doubtful" debts to the tune of 22 lakhs existed at these dates, they were not mentioned in the balance sheets. The Magistrate had refused to enquire into the matter.

Their Lordships, in a lengthy judgment, discussed the legal aspect of Mr. Shamdasani's allegations with reference to the provisions of the Indian Companies Act. They set aside the Magistrate's order, and remanded the case to him for disposal according to law.

THE LATE MR. LITTLE

CONDOLENCE BY BENCH AND BAR

The Bench and the Bar of the Bombay High Court made touching reference to the tragic death of Mr. T. G. S. Little, Advocate, who was drowned in the sea at Bandra on Saturday last.

The Chief Justice observed: Before we begin our day's work I wish to refer to the loss we have all suffered by the tragic death of Mr. T. G. S. Little. The Bench and the Bar are a small community, and engaged as we are with the same ideals, the disaster to anyone of us is one that affects the whole profession.

"We shall resume our work to-day with heavy hearts" concluded the Chief Justice, "and with feelings of the deepest sympathy to his widow. Those who were privileged to know Mr. Little and his wife in private life know that they were too good to each other."

Sir Thomas Strangman, associated himself with the above sentiments, on behalf of the Bar. He paid a tribute to the deceased's character and ability. The one satisfaction they felt, he said, was that his task was well and truly done.

IMPROVEMENT TRUST'S CHAWLS.

On Monday's meeting of the Improvement Trust, reference was made to the death of Mr. Little and a resolution of condolence was passed.

SUIT AGAINST TURF CLUB

STEWARD'S ACTION JUSTIFIED

The notice of motion taken out against the W. I. Turf Club by Kaikhasru Tarachand in his suit for injunction and dauges in respect of alleged wrongful exclusion from the race course came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Kemp at the High Court.

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, instructed by Messrs. Kanga and Co., Solicitors appeared for the plaintiff while Sir Thomas Strangman, intructed by Messrs. Craigie Blunt and Caroe, appeared for the defendant Club.

Sir Chimanlal stated that plaintiff was a holder of a season ticket from the Turf Club, whereby he had a license to witness the races during the season. He had paid Rs. 60 for the ticket The plaintiff received a letter for the Secretary of the Club sometime back intimating that the Stewards had decided to exclude him from the race-course. This action of the Stewards was arbitrary and unlawful, especially as no reason was assigned by the Stewards.

THE DEFENCE.

For the Turf Club it was contended by Sir Thomas Strangman, that rule 7(a) imposed an obligation on the Stewards to take action in respect of such offences as were not covered by rule 7. The plaintiff did not suggest that the Stewards had acted arbitrarily or 'Mala fide', and they had called no evidence to prove it. The Court should therefore presume that the discretion was properly exercised till the contrary is proved. The onus to prove it was on the party complaining against it, and not upon the Turf Club.

In delivering judgment his Lordship observed that the ticket was issued subject to the rules and regulations of the Club. Rule 7 (a) gave discretion to the stewards to exclude any person who was not a member of the Club, and the effect of the rule is that the license was revokable. It was meant to cover other offences which were not expressly mentioned in rule 7. Rule 7 (a) gave absolute discretion to the Stewards, and there was no evidence to show that they had not exercised it properly, except the bare allegation in the plaint. The plaintiff had therefore failed to discharge the onus that was upon him to prove his allegation. The motion was therefore discharged. The suit was also dismissed with costs.

EX-NAWAB OF BELHA SENTENCED

Judgment was delivered by Mr. D. N. D. Khandalavala, the acting third Presidency Magistrate on Monday in the case in which the Ex-Nawab of Belha and Mr. Dastur a pleader were charged with cheating in respect of Jewellery valued at Rs. 18,000. The Ex. Nawab was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,000 in default a further imprisonment of six months on the ground that the accused had been practising frauds for a long time. The Magistrate released the second accused on the ground that no case had been made out against him.

SOCIO-RELIGIOUS PROBLEMS

HINDU RELIGIOUS HEADS TO MEET IN CONFERENCE AT MADRAS

MADRAS, Feb. 28.

His Holiness Vibhudipuriya Teerthaji, head of the Udipi Mutt, who is now in Madras, is organising a conference of Hindu religious heads to discuss the various socio-religious problems now confronting the community such as untouchability, widow re-marriage, child marriage, absence of facilities for re-conversion, the position in society of England-returned men, etc., and to suggest means for revitalising Hinduism.—Free Press.

HUNGER STRIKE IN INSEIN JAIL ENDS?

RANGOON, Feb. 28.

Free Press of India understands that the Bengal State prisoners in Insein Jail, who had gone on hunger strike, have resumed taking food.

The conditions under which the hunger strike was given up are not yet known —Free Press.

CALCUTTA STABBING INCIDENT

VICTIM DIES IN HOSPITAL

CALCUTTA, Feb. 28.

Hiralal Agarwala, the rich Marwari who was stabbed in his office on Saturday evening, died in hospital last night.

The Nepalee young man arrested in this conection will be sent up for trial tomorrow.—Free Press.

ACCUSED'S STATEMENT TO DY. COMMISSIONER

CALCUTTA, Feb. 28.

"I am a 'Chatturi', by caste and by warlike nature asserted itself on account of the brutalities that had been practised on my country women." Thus Kharag Bahadur, the young Nepalee graduate who had been arrested on a charge of having murdered Hiralal Agarwala, a Marwari Merchant at his office on Saturday last as a sequel to the alleged abduction of Rajkumari, a Nepalee girl of pre-possessing beauty, addressed the Deputy Commissioner. Kharag Bahadur has been remanded to custody.—Free Press.

COUNCIL OS FTATE PROCEEDINGS

NEW DELHI, Feb. 28

The Council of State met to-day at 5 p.m.

Sir S. R. M .Annamalai Chetty from Madras took oath of Allegiance. Mr. K. V. Rangaswami Iyengar, M.L.A., among others was present in the visiters gallery for a few minutes. Two questions of not much importance were answered. Mr. Braynne, the Finance Secretary, then presented the statement of estimated expenditure and revenue for 1927-28, in respect of subjects other than the railways.—Free Press.

ANOTHER SYMPATHETIC STRIKE

NAGPUR, Feb. 28.

The Bengal Nagpur Railway Indian employees of Kamptee station are reported to have struck work last evening in sympathy with other strikers.—A. P.

CAIRO-KARACHI AIR SERVICE.

LONDON, Feb. 27.

Cairo—The Bristol-Jupiter airliner which will participate in the Cairo-Karachi air service has arrived at Heliopolis.—Reuter.

DEVELOPMENT OF VERNACULARS

PATNA, Feb. 28.

An important sitting of the committee appointed by the local Government, under the presidentship of Sir Ali Imam, to devise ways and means for the development of vernaculars, was held here on Saturday and Sunday last in the Radhika Sinha Institute. Several prominent gentlemen from outside the province were invited to discuss this problem and to help the committee with their expert advice. Those present besides the members of the committee were Principal L. Dhruva of Benares University, Mr. Sinha, Dr. Tarachand of Kayastha Pathsala, Allahabad, Munshi Dayanarayan Negam of Cawnpore, Babu Shyamsunder Das, Babu Ram Das Gaur, Mr. Sajjad Haider of Aligarh University, Mr. Abdul Huque of Hyderabad and Syed Jabb, editor of "Hamdam," Lucknow.

After some discussion it was found that the consensus of opinion in the committee was that a common Hindustani language which may be understood by all schools should be developed and the recent tendency towards creation and development of two distinct literary forms in Hindi and Urdu should be checked.—Free Press.

Mr. Rangilal, Sessions Judge of Gujranwala, has sentenced to death Gian Chand of Pindithatian for the murder of three persons including a woman and for attempting to murder three others. The accused himself pleaded guilty. The persons murdered were killed by pistol shots.—A. P.

A message from Patna of the 26th instant, says:—The Committee appointed by Government to suggest means for the development of the vernaculars in the Province commenced their work to-day. They have invited many Hindi, Urdu and Oriya Scholars to help them in their work.—A. P.

LATEST NEWS.

MADRAS, February 28.

"Every Municipal Corporation is essentially a miniature experiment in Communism" declared Mr. Shapurji Saklatvala, M.P., replying to the address of welcome presented to him this afternoon at the Ripon Buildings by the President and Councillors of the Madras Corporation.

In conclusion, he expressed his gratefulness to the Madras Corporation for courageously breaking the unjustifiable prejudice against Communists and Socialists. "We are out not to add to the troubles and distress of the world. We look at the world as it stands to-day, and we who see disease, hunger, starvation and moral degradation are struggling to restore to the world the human dignity, the humanitarian civilisation and the right of men and women to lead a happy, beautiful, healthy and pleasureable life."—A.P.

CALCUTTA, February 28.

As a protest against the detention of political prisoners a public meeting was held here to-day at which a resolution was adopted urging boycott of all British goods, except medicine, books, etc. The speakers were confident that if they boycotted the British goods from to-day, Government would be bound to release the prisoners.—A. P.

LONDON, February 28.

In the House of Commons to-day, Sir Austen Chamberlain announced that Government did not propose to reply to the Soviet Note.—Reuter.

LATEST COTTON QUOTATIONS.

(Through Cotton Telegraphic Information Service, 375, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay).

MAY.

NEW YORK.

February,	28.
Previous Closing Rate	14.20
To-day's Opening Rate	14.22
Difference	+.02
To-day's Closing Rate	14.31
Difference	+.11

LIVERPOOL.

February,	28.
Previous Closing Rate	7.59
To-day's Opening Rate	7.64
Difference	+.05
To-day's Closing Rate	7.62
Difference	+.03

Sewri Closing	301	0	0
Khandi Closing	301	8	0

LONDON SILVER MARKET.

February,	28.
London, Feb.	28.
Silver Ready	26 2 0
Difference	0 8 0 lower.
Silver Forward	25 14 0
Difference	0 8 0 lower.

Tone of market:—China and India sold.

MAHATMAJI TO BE STATE GUEST?

MYSORE MAHARAJA'S INVITATION

DHARWAR, Feb. 28.

It is understood that the Maharaja of Mysore has extended an invitation to Mr. Gandhi during his Southern tour to visit the Mysore State and to the State guest.—A. P.

END IN SIGHT AT LAST

COLOMBO STRIKERS AGREE TO ARBITRATION

COLOMBO, Feb. 28.

The strikers will return to work tomorrow, all parties having agreed to the Government suggestion for unconditional arbitration.—A. P.

NO HUNGER STRIKE IN INSEIN?

GOVT. TO ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

RANGOON, Feb. 28.

It is understood that the report of the hunger strike of the Bengal detenus in the Insein Jail is incorrect and the Bengal Government is likely to issue a communique shortly.—A. P.

HARTAL STILL TO COTINUE

KUSTHIA COURTS PRACTICALLY DESERTED

KUSTHIA, Feb. 28.

The situation in connection with the communal trouble has not changed. Hartal is continuing as usual. No Hindu pleader or Mukhtesar is attending the courts which are practically deserted. Hindus have informed the authorities that they are unable to go to courts leaving women and children unprotected.

At a meeting of Hindus held yesterday it was decided to continue the hartal until their grievances were redressed.—A. P.

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The Bombay Chronicle.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1927.

BLACKETT'S SWAN-SONG

After the first impressions—or rather depression,—on reading Sir Basil's swan-song are over and when one settles down to a close study of this remarkable performance, one notices everywhere the same old hand of the master-craftsman at work. He has, however, a perverted conception of his mission. That Sir Basil Blackett is amongst the cleverest of Indian Finance Members we have never denied; but his cleverness is usually displayed at the expense of India, to which the latest of his budget performance is no exception. Sir Basil's work is not free from slight but noticeable flaws, which his untiring ingenuity delights in representing as perfections; and he expects us to be duly thankful for the same. We would not deny him a meed of praise for the happy state of the finances in the last few years, though we are aware more is due to force of circumstances independent of Sir Basil than the latter would like to be known. That, however, does not justify him in representing as causes for jubilation those variations between estimates and actuals, between budget and revised estimates, which are largely responsible for the improvement in the last and the current years, but which are truly speaking flaws in his art or craftsmanship as a financier. In proportion as the final results of any year show "overcaution," as Sir Basil over-mildly describes this flaw,—in estimating revenue or expenditure, he must stand the charge of having taken more from the people than was strictly necessary, leaving the door open to an eleventh-hour misuse of the surplus thus occurring almost as a windfall. Under a sound financier,—and still more, under competent control of a ceaselessly vigilant legislature—such an occurrence may not breed all the evils that in an irresponsible bureaucracy, like the Government of India, it is most likely to do. On the achievements of the last and the current years, so far at least as the revenue and expenditure figures are concerned, we must temper the praise due to Sir Basil by a reminder of the essentially undesirable nature of the particular device by which these happy results have been achieved or made probable. It can be no compliment even to Sir Basil himself that the calculations of one who would fain be regarded as a master-craftsman in his line were so utterly beyond the mark, unless it was done deliberately, in which case he would merit a much stronger condemnation, than we have thought fit to pronounce. On the side of the Ways and Means, and particularly in regard to the growing improvement of the public credit of the Government of India, also, we must modify the praise which the letter of the budget speech seems to demand. It is good to note that the credit is improving; that Government are making a saving under the head of interest; that India is becoming a creditor country in the sense of buying back steadily a part of her foreign obligations every year, and that her Government do not intend to raise any more sterling loans. These are all points of policy which Indian economists have been long since urging, though the official hierarchy, of which Sir Basil is such a tireless champion, never lost an opportunity of abusing and deriding such Indians when they made these self-same suggestions. But the point Sir Basil seems to have missed, the point which it is of the utmost importance in the economic life of this country for her publicists and legislators to grasp, is that there is no occasion for jubilation in such and the like developments, if the trend thereof is merely to postpone the evil day. Concretely, if the buying out by Indians in India of the sterling securities of the Government of India is the result, not of a proportionate addition to the real wealth of India, but of an artificial stimulus to such investment in the shape of exemption from income-tax in India and in England, then we submit there would be no cause whatever for congratulation. Sterling securities are, as things stand to-day, exempted from the income-tax of the Government of India; and, if the recipients of the interest on these sterling loans are not resident in Britain, then they are also exempt from the British Income-Tax, we believe; so that, the net yield to the Indian holders of such securities would compare favourably with the corresponding yield in India or in Britain. We wonder if any of the legislators in the Assembly would have this matter sifted to the bottom, and would ascertain if the process the Finance Member has alluded to does not really mean the creation of a specially vicious type of vested interest to which, if it is coming into existence, we cannot too early put an end.

ALMOST MEPHISTOPHELEAN.

Turning, next, to the financial outlook for the next budget year, we have already noted that its seeming prosperity, on the basis of existing standards of income and expenditure, is due to a plain-faced attempt to force the hand of the Assembly on what has come to be known as the ratio question. It is a piece of astute manoeuvring on the part of Sir Basil that the real angle of vision from which the problem of currency reform in India ought to have been considered has been thus so grossly distorted and perverted; and it does not diminish our sense of regret to know that some prominent Indians have played into his hands by concentrating all their forces on what after all is comparatively a detail of the real struggle. The question of currency reform in India is a question of properly defining and statutorily establishing an honest standard of money in this country; and we can think of no substance more fool-proof as well as more knave-proof for serving as standard than gold. Sir Basil and his parrot-like satellites may cry themselves hoarse in praise of the brand new creation, the Gold Bullion Standard; but those who have eyes to see and brains to understand will never be persuaded into believing that this new half-breed of Sir Basil's begetting is the genuine article which experts like Dr. Cannan have agreed with Indian economists in asking for. The so-called "ratio-question" is a detail, an incident of temporary importance only, which ought, in the first place, never to have been there; and which, being there, by the machinations of the Finance Member, ought to have been summarily disposed off in the only way in which such trickery ought to be dealt with. Indians, however, of eminence have fallen into the clever trap Sir Basil has laid for them. He does not wish that the establishment of a real, honest gold standard in India should be permitted to materialise itself, for such an eventuality may lead to London being obliged to part with large hoards of the gold belonging to India now located in that money market. He dare not, however, avow this one and only reason for keeping India out of the true gold standard. He has, therefore, raised up the foul bogey of the "ratio-question": and his protagonists, have rushed into the fray, though on the particular aspect selected, they are, of course, seeking to protect the true interests of the Indian producer, which Sir Basil would not mind immolating. Even on this particular question Sir Basil has now played his ace of trumps; and plainly tells his adversaries either to accept the 18-penny rupee *and* the remissions of provincial contributions, which, he says, this higher rupee renders possible; or face a substantial deficit of nearly 2 crores! This is ingenious, almost mephistophelean; and we doubt if the members of the Assembly will find the hardihood as well as the energy, to point out to the overweening conceit of Sir Basil that the deficit he threatens the country with, if his precious 18-penny rupee were not accepted, need not absolutely be, since if his estimates and actuals have differed in the past to the benefit of the latter, why should we not hold that his prognostics for the coming year are equally unsatisfactory?

CUT DOWN MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

This is not all. Estimating is a fine art, which, however, is obviously not open or possible to the non-official members of the legislature. But it is perfectly competent and open to them to urge that the heads of expenditure have not undergone, even yet, all the pruning that the official retrenchment committee had recommended four years ago. Sir Basil talks of having reached the limit of useful and economical retrenchment; and suggests further increases in such commendable directions as education in the Delhi Province and the N.W. Frontier. Without objecting to such suggestions, the members of the Assembly may yet fairly urge that the real retrenchment is possible, without injury, only in such heads as the military. Sir Basil cannot have forgotten that in the opinion of the Inchcape Committee the maximum burden that ought at all to be placed on the Indian finances in this case should be standardised at 50 crores. Sir Basil's military budget is still ten per cent. above the standard of the Inchcape Committee, which is truly speaking much larger if we remember the increased artificial value of the rupee. There has, in fact, been no real retrenchment in the military budget, since apparently all that has happened is that the Army Department in the last four years has bought very little new stores, and used up such portion of the inflated stores of 1922-23, as came in for so much scathing comments at the hands of the Inchcape Committee. The Finance Member now tells us that even this direction of seeming economy is exhausted. If so, the army expenditure must demand a far more rigorous retrenchment than Government have hitherto agreed to; and the duty was the more incumbent on the Finance Member to insist on substantial reduction in this non-earning department, inasmuch as the representatives of the people are debarred from touching this item officially. But Sir Basil's love for India is never so deep as that for his motherland, and his fellow-countrymen who find such lucrative employment in the civil and military services of this country. Only, let him not then say that his administration of the Indian finances has achieved every economy it was possible to effect. And while real retrenchment remains thus untried, the Finance Member has no right to put it to the Assembly that there is no further room for reduction in expenditure, sufficient at least to overcome the bogey he has raised up in connection with the exchange value of the rupee. We hold that expenditure in the army as well as the over-staffed and overpaid civil departments can more than suffice to render nugatory the threat of a deficit on a 16-penny-rupee-basis, even without challenging the accuracy of the estimates on which the threat is based; and we, therefore, suggest that on this argument of financial equilibrium there is no case for an artificially overvalued rupee.

NOT A POOR MAN'S BUDGET.

Not admitting Sir Basil's implication of the impossibility of further reducing expenditure, we cannot, of course, agree to or commend in their entirety the several specific proposals in his budget for revenue adjustments and expenditure grants. The Budget is not,—and never has been under Sir Basil,—a poor man's Budget. He does not remember the remark of Dr. Paranjpye in the Taxation Committee's Report that the ordinary salt duty, even if not abolished altogether, ought to be standardised at annas 8 per maund; he does not recollect that the quarter-anna post card is still a thing of the past, what time he holds forth on the "service" motto, as against revenue incentive, of the Indian Post and Telegraphs Department. He rather thinks of reducing the duty on motor cars,—a purely luxury commodity if ever there was one in India; or of the export duties like that on tea or hides. Had Sir Basil thought of the effect of an export duty on a raw material of industry in providing to the local industry a cheap raw material, had he been truly in sympathy with the ambitions of Indian nationalism in building up modern industries, we wonder if he would have used the same language in regard to the export duty on hides. The case of tea may be commended, not because of the removal of the export duty, but rather because of making half of the tea-companies' income chargeable to the income-tax. We only wish this reform had come earlier and been more thorough. The other readjustments are not worth special notice, except the remission or reduction of provincial contributions. To the Bombay Presidency, this would, of course, look like a boon, though not entirely ungrudged. But the benefit of Bombay must not blind us to the specious nature of the advantage offered. We all desire a reduction in provincial contributions, and we are, of course, anxious that this inequitous relic of an impossible state of things should be done away with as soon as possible. But if the reduction of provincial contributions is to be purchased at the cost of a permanent injury to the Indian monetary system, then Sir Basil may be sure Indian patriotism will rise above this pitiful and disgraceful bribe he is offering; and decline to accept local advantage of a suspicious kind at the cost of the country as a whole for perhaps generations to come.

THE HONORARY MAGISTRATES,

THEIR WORK AND SCOPE.

BY OBSERVER.

The importance of the work of Honorary Magistrates both in the city and in the mofussil may be gauged from the single circumstance, that the revenues yielded by these honorary courts in the shape of fines and penalties enable the department of law and justice to pay its way and stand on its own feet as a self-supporting and self-contained department. In the courts of the stipendiary magistrates, much of non-cognisable crime (e.g. assault, insult and simple hurt) are compounded in and out of court on the principles of undertakings and compensation to aggrieved persons but the coffers of the State do not gain by any appreciable increase. In cases of cognisable crime the infliction of heavy fines does not invariably swell the exchequer as convicted persons prefer working out their fine by going to jail in default. While, therefore, it is true that the work of the stipendiary magistrates looms larger in the public eye from the viewpoint of public importance and interest and the light and colour of the limelight, the out-turn of the courts of honorary magistrates is not a negligible factor at all, as is the generally accepted view of laymen and lawyer.

ANIMATED SCENE.

The "morning courts" as honorary benches are generally styled—or "annari" magistrates as illiterate folk dub them—present a lively and animated scene in the early hours of the day. Here are collected, higgledy-piggledy, the late reveller who has drunk at the altar of Bacchus from dewy eye, passing from one shrine to another, till the harassed garrywallah has deposited him at the midnight hour at some hospitable police station to snore away his fumes—the street gambler who ekes a precarious livelihood by accepting open air bets, or whiles away a lonesome hour by playing cards for petty pice in the cool retreat of some garden or "maidan"—the irrepressible and ubiquitous hawker who displays his wares on the foot-path which a benign municipality had certainly never intended for him but which he claims by some law of prescriptive right known only to himself—the band-cart and wheel-barrow pest, who crowds around the "nakas" in the city or gets in the way of taxi and tram and amuses an indulgent public by exchange of jocular abuse with the police constable, his ancient and invincible foe. To complete the picture, one must not leave aside the wicked and importunate "jehu" who in a degenerate and democratic age, spares neither Sheth nor Saheb from the malevolence of a wicked tongue for lack of a few annas.

And so the sunny and the seamy aspects of life are interwoven into each other like the warp and the woof, for making a web interesting to a casual observer who drops in to see how the wheels of law and justice go round. The scope and functions of the honorary bench are limited chiefly to crimes of a trivial nature, involving questions of fact, not of law—this procedure is in vogue, naturally, as honorary magistrates, not being trained in the law cannot be expected to lay down judicial rulings on points of law. However, even in assessing questions of pure fact, one must possess a legal outlook in order to estimate the evidenciary value of several facts and view them in their true perspective. Luckily for the safety of the public, the honorary benches are entrusted with types of cases where the facts are elementary and easily understandable by any man with a modicum of commonsense.

A POPULAR BELIEF.

Despite the simple nature of their duties, tradition has taken a fixed hold about the bench, that it must derive its inspiration from the judicial clerk. To a looker-on, it must appear astonishing how the clerk "bosses" parties, police and the bench. A garrywallah is put up for rude behaviour to a fare—"how darc you use bad language to a passenger" interrogates the bench—while the accused hums and haws some sort of twaddle, the clerk pops up from his seat and whispers to authority "he might be fined one rupee"—that cuts short the defence "Yes, yes" reply the magistrates, "one rupee fine, next case please." The next delinquent is a hawker who is up for obstruction. The police press the case—they always do in the honorary courts—again the clerk pops up his head and—whispers "three rupees fine." Authority nods its head and the man is doomed. A third case is put up—a woman charged for immoral soliciting: "Haven't you any shame to call out like that" bawls out the magistrate if he happens to be elderly and paternal—while the woman mumbles an answer, there comes the fatal whisper from the scribe "serious case, Sir, Police Commissioner very strict, nowadays, in such cases; she must be given seven days rigorous"—that's done it, the fiat goes forth. In defended cases, where a pleader is hired "to kick up a row" the honorary magistrates are very indulgent and let the offender off with a "warned and dis-

(Continued on page 10).

UNIQUE IN ITS FOLLY.

Wherever that distinguished son of India, Mr. Shapurji Saklatlavala, has gone luring his visit to his mother-country addresses of appreciation and welcome have showered upon him, municipalities have felt themselves honoured in honouring him, huge audiences have, with tremendous enthusiasm, expressed their gratitude for the work he is doing in Parliament for the oppressed population of this country. The people of Bombay showed their appreciation of his services by giving him a welcome which, as a member of the Corporation said at its meeting yesterday, "even Kings might envy." But to those of our Aldermen, who had come to vote down the proposal of an address to such a man, all this was nothing. They carried their point and rendered the Corporation unique in its folly. It was a full House which debated yesterday the proposal of an address to Mr. Saklatvala, members, upon whom their civic duties fall so lightly that they rarely attend the past, what time he holds forth on the Corporation, having mustered up to exhibit their gross misconception of those duties by turning down the proposal of a formal address of welcome. A good deal of fatuous and irrelevant criticism was indulged in to depreciate Mr. Saklatvala, the most grotesque performance being that of Mr. Mody who declared that Mr. Saklatvala had done precious little for India in the British Parliament. To him and his friends the Communist M.P. is a bugbear. But we never thought he would suddenly appear in that light to Mr. Boman Behram, one of the candidates to the presidential chair, who, though he had seconded the proposal for an address failed to gather fortitude enough to vote for it. The Corporation by its vote yesterday has stultified itself and has managed to make itself ridiculous in the eyes of the public whose duty it now is to mark its sense of strong disapproval of its conduct by giving Mr. Saklatvala a still more magnificent reception when he returns to this city from his tour.

Notes of the Day.

Neutrality in Practice.

A British Official Wireless message gravely informs the whole world that the "authorities in the International Settlement" at Shanghai propose to adopt the most correct attitude possible when two domestic forces of the country of which the Settlement forms a wrenched out part, are at war with each other. The Northern Government's armies are concentrating on the outskirts of Shanghai and the Republic of the South proposes to give a pitched battle to them there. If Chang-Tso-lin indicates by his next tactics in the military game that he wishes to force an entrance into southern territory. The foreigners declare that they will observe strict neutrality. The Consular representatives of the Powers expect that the Chinese authorities of the North and the South will reciprocate. But one may well ask what sort of neutrality it is which permits the French Government to allow Chang-Tso-lin to buy a number of aeroplanes from France and which makes Britain only lament politely that certain States in Europe have broken the Agreement between the Powers entered into years ago regarding the supply of armaments to China? It is no wonder if the Cantonese Government regards this neutrality in practice as favouring the Peking Government which European bond-holders consider is in their absolute financial grip.

A Damaging Admission.

The Agent of the Bengal Nagpur Railway has at last thought it incumbent upon himself to issue a long statement in order "to re-state existing facts" in regard to the "dispute between the Railway Administration and the Railway Union." The vast majority of Indians believe that the "dispute" is between capitalism and its starving employees and the attempt to damage the "Union" in the eyes of the public as a recalcitrant and wrong-headed group of people which is manifest throughout the statement will not hold water for a moment. The Agent is not prepared to agree to an independent enquiry and this very refusal of his to accept the reasonable proposal of an independent investigation is sure to increase the distrust of the men in the oft repeated protestations of the B. N. R. authorities that they are always willing to look into individual grievances. The Agent, however, makes the damaging admission that "there has been delay in making these enquiries" and his brushing aside the question of insufficiency of pay with a contemptuous reference to the fact that they are giving the men "wages which are generally on the same level with those paid on this side of India by other railways" will provoke the men further and strengthen them in their determination to stand out. The Agent's statement is a lamentable exhibition of the indifference with which the B.N. R. authorities regard the conditions of starvation in which the majority of their employees have to live.

The Woes of a Paternal Government.

In this bad world of ours which in no part of it yet realises how the exertions of efficient burcaucracies, even if they are soulless in their methods, are always in the direction of securing the greatest good conceivable for their "wards," there are a number of people called "agitators." It is these persons who stand between a wise benignant officialdom and the populations for whom they are "trustees." Take for example the population of Aden. After sixty years or so the bureaucracy came to the conclusion that things were not quite all right in regard to their legal comforts. "Antiquated" laws, they discovered, had to be "modernised." Several years ago a bill to bring them these blessings began to be hatched in the Bombay Secretariat and Mr. Hotson told the Bombay Legislative Council on Saturday that matters would now brook no delay. But there are constitutionalists in our local legislature and Mr. Sheth and others decided that the good people of Aden could as well wait for another five months. They made Mr. Hotson and his henchmen realise by their votes that the majority of the members were favourable to referring the Bill to a Select Committee. We are sure the good people of Aden will agree with the constitutionalists and will be content to add five months to the twenty-seven years during which they have exercised the quality of patience.

The Jugglers.

It is a great pity that Mr. Aney lost only by two votes the opportunity of impressing upon the Government of India how thoroughly disgusted Indian opinion is with their methods of Indianisation of the Railway services. He moved a "cut" in the Railway Budget to protest against the violation of the Lee Commission's recommendations for giving 75 per cent. of the vacancies to Indians. He pointed out how only 86 appointments went to Indians out of those made during the year while 132 went to Europeans. It is not the case that for the technical branches like engineering, for example, Indians are not available, because, as Mr. B. Das observed, while Indian States did not depend on "so-called experts from England" for technical services the Government of India alone found it difficult to secure Indians for them. But Indians with the requisite qualifications were available if only the Government would care to have them. Sir Charles Innes could only meet this unanswerable charge by giving percentages, a method which always proves useful when juggling with figures becomes necessary. But these official jugglers can never command confidence so long as Indians find that within a particular year more jobs have been given to foreigners.

Salutary Advice.

Religious relationship, says the "Aman-i-Afghan," the official organ of the Afghanistan Government, "has more to do with the soul than with problems of life and social relations." In commenting upon the murder of Swami Shaddhanand it gives to the communal fanatics of every religious faith in India, some salutary advice which they will do well to follow. Men like Swami Shraddhanand, it remarks, are "respected by wise men of all nations, irrespective of distinctions of caste, creed and country." Islam, it points out, does not support assassination and the act has injured Muslims in India. It wants the Indian Muslims to understand how necessary it is to separate the question of religious relationship from social relations, and in its opinion, Indian Muslims when they appreciate this view "can live quite comfortably if they join hands with their Hindu brethren in worldly life." We commend this broad-minded view of the Afghan journal to the attention of champions of communalism in India.

BLACKETT'S PARTING SHOT.

18d RATIO OR RELIEF TO PROVINCES?

A SURPLUS BUDGET AND ITS BRIBE.

WIND-FALL FOR BOMBAY

HALF OF INCOME TAX TO BE RETURNED.

CRUSHING MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

NO REDUCTION IN SALT DUTY OR POSTAL RATES

DUTY ON MOTOR CARS REDUCED

(From Our Special Representative.)

NEW DELHI, Feb. 28.

Punctually at 5 past 5 Sir Basil Blackett rose and amid pin-drop silence and earnest attention spoke on his budget presentation. He spoke quite calmly and in very distinct tones and he maintained the air of one who was the master of his subject, and indeed a master of his subject he is. His budget is a surplus budget.

EXCEPTIONAL FEATURES.

This budget is a surplus budget and, in fact, it is more than a surplus budget because, perhaps, actually the surplus amount is more than what it is pointed out to be. Its features of exceptional interest are the floating of a loan and the abolition of the provincial contributions. There was a rumour that Sir Basil wanted to put a new duty on silver with the idea of safe-guarding the gold reserves, but Sir Basil has not done so and, perhaps, with a very good justification. The abolition of provincial contributions is looked upon with very warm general approval, although some keen economists in the Assembly look upon it as a sop to Cereberus, whatever that may be. This announcement would be greeted with general satisfaction, especially by the Ministers who are in charge of nation building departments. The other items that might be of general interest to the readers of "The Chronicle" are the decrease in motor duty and the abolition of export duty on skins and hides and tea and the levy of duty on cured tobacco. It is, however, a pity that there has been no further reduction in salt tax. It is of exceptional interest to note that the Finance Member has shown some great solicitude towards Bombay.

TAXING HIMSELF.

Hearing his statement one felt that the Finance Member was taxing himself how best to satisfy Bombay. His reference to the Cotton Excise Duty is full of some wide-reaching implications. This is only a thread in the web, of course, not of the spider, and though one cannot reach the 'terra firma' of the Textile Tariff Board's recommendations it is positively certain that before long the Bombay Textile trade will get a new and very effective protective Tariff to an equal extent. The people of the Frontier should be grateful for the help the Government is rendering to the cause of education there. With perfect grace. Sir Basil did not much enlarge on the consequences of changing the ratio from 1sh. 6d. to 1sh. 4d. He admitted that the entire questions could be discussed on the 7th. But, however, he hinted that on the basis of 1sh. 4d. there would be a loss of 5 crores and 26 lakhs.

THE BUDGET.

One can now sum up this year's budget. It is an affirmative budget, because it shows a decided surplus. It is a capitalists' budget because it helps the big traders in motor cars by reducing the duty on motor cars imports and by the abolition of the stamp duty on cheques. It is a political budget because it seeks to abolish provincial contributions which have of late become some apple of discord. It is a diplomatic budget because it seeks to make sweet to erstwhile angry partners. By the floating of a loan of ten crres the gold reserves on whose strength the 18d. ratio is to be maintained are sought to be made strong, stable and reliable. On such a budget the members are for the present keeping a discreet silence.

QUESTIONS POSTPONED

DELHI, Feb. 28.

The public galleries were crowded long before five o'clock when the Assembly met to hear Sir Basil Blackett's budget speech. For the first time since the inception of the Reforms, the Budget figures enabled the Central finances at least for a year to be entirely independent of Provincial contributions. The attendance was very large though the weather was not at all pleasant for there was a high wind and dust storm. Among thevisitors were Lady Blackett and Lady Innes.

Though a large number of questions were on the order pacer the President said he thought it was the general wish of the House that the time of the presentation of the Budget should tally with that of the other house and that questions should be postponed till to-morrow. This being the general feeling of the House, he called n Sir Basil Blackett who was loudly cheered as he rose to deliver his speech. He took the first front seat generally occupied by the Leader of the House.—A. P.

YEAR'S FINANCIAL REVIEW

SIR BASIL BLACKETT'S SPEECH

The following is the full test of the Speech of the Finance Member introducing the Budget for 1927-28 in the Legislative Assembly yesterday:—

1. Sir, Looking backwards brings little solace to a new Assembly which is called upon to examine the out-turn of past Budgets for which it was not itself in any way responsible. This is the first Budget of His Excellency Lord Irwin's Government: it is the first Budget which this Assembly will deal with, and it is the first to be introduced in this new and spacious Council House in New Delhi. Honourable Members will, therefore, be far more interested in the prospects for the year 1927-28 than in a retrospect of the years 1925-26 and 1926-27. Indeed, with the approaching completion of the first ten years of the Reforms, our eyes and the eyes of India are rightly straining forward to the vision of the future and there is neither need nor inclination for us to brood overmuch over the successes and still less over the failures of the past. I propose accordingly to be as brief as possible in what I have to say to-day about the Budgets for 1925-26 and 1926-27.

Not that we have any reason for dissatisfaction—quite the contrary—with the financial story of those years. Once again, the final results of the year 1925-26 reveal over-caution in our revised estimates. The audited accounts show an improvement of just over 2 crores on the revised estimate of 1.30 crores. It is difficult to single out any particular head which accounts for this improvement. Customs produced 93 lakhs more than we expected when the revised figures were drawn up, the yield in the last two months of the year being exceptionally high. But this excess was to some extent counterbalanced by failure of other heads of retvenue to fulfill anticipations. On the expenditure side, nearly every head contributed to the improved net surplus. The final result is a realised surplus of 3.31 crores. The usual comparative table showing the comparative outturn in each of the last ten years is attached to the printed Budget Speech.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1926-27.

The visible balance of trade including private imports of treasure for the ten months ended 31st. January 1927 was in India's favour by 27.16 crores as compared with 85.76 crores a year ago, this result being largely explained by the fall in the price of jute and cotton and the lateness of the season. Recent figures suggest that the delay will lead to a considerable expansion in the volume of exports in the last months of the financial year. Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Bombay Stock Exchange on February, 11th. the President, Mr. K. R. P. Shroff, correctly described the year as generally good for trade and business, though it continued depressed for the cotton trade. It would have been even more satisfactory, had conditions abroad not restricted business, for example the coal strike in England and the Civil War in China. The fall in the price of cotton, though overdue, has temporarily increased the difficulties of the cotton industry, but the ultimate effect of a larger demand following on cheaper production is already bringing its compensations. Uncertainty regarding the stability of exchange militated during the autumn against the feeling of security which is the surest foundation for sound business conditions and accentuated the effects of the lateness of the season. In the money market, the most notable feature of the calendar year 1926 was an exceptional absence of stringency, and it is only recently that the seasonal demands for money combined with special reasons for hesitancy in the exchange market and concentrated into the first months of the new year instead of being spread over the period from October onwards have led to a rise in the Bank rate to 7 per cent., a figure which has been usual at this period of the year but was not touched between May 1925 and February 1927. Even now, the stringency is less marked than in the winters of 1923-24 and 1924-25.

Customs receipts are expected to exceed the estimate by 1.30 crores, as a result of the bouyancy of the yield from sugar and protective duties. The proceeds in 1925-26 of the sugar duty were 71 lakhs more than for 1924-25 and nearly double those of 1923-24, and were thought to have been inflated owing to the heavy fall in the world price of sugar in that year. But our cautious estimate of 5.70 crores for 1926-27 has now to be raised by 1.25 crores. Protective duties on steel in spite of their success in giving protection have proved unexpectedly efficacious in bringing in revenue and are now expected to produce 2.85 crores as against an estimate of 2.35 crores. This represents of course the total proceeds of these duties, not simply the excess over what the ordinary revenue duties would have brought in.

Taxes on Income are now estimated to bring in 29 lakhs less than the Budget estimate of 16.15 crores, but this is due almost entirely to an increase in refunds in connection with double income-tax relief consequent on the reduction in the standard rate of income-tax in Great Britain.

Our receipts from Salt were fully up to anticipations up to the end of December, but the hope, however slenderly buttressed, that the new Budget might bring a reduction of duty seems to spring eternal in the breast of the salt merchant and the most recent figures suggest that clearances have been retarded pending the opening of the Budget. If so, the March figures may show a substantial recovery, but I have felt it prudent to place the revised estimate at 6.70 crores a reduction of 20 lakhs on the original estimate.

The net receipts from Opium are now estimated at 3.12 crores an improvement of 86 lakhs on the Budget figure. We were unduly cautious in our forecast of the immediate effect of our new policy of restricting exports, while a poor crop succeeding three successive bumper years led to a saving of 48 lakhs in our payments to cultivators, etc.

There is no change in the figure of 6.01 crores for the Railway contribution and among other revenue heads, I need only mention a special receipts of 31 lakhs on account of German reparation which represents a payment in respect of the period before 1st. April 1926 and does not therefore go direct to reduction or avoidance of debt under the provisions of the Finance Act of 1926.

EXPENDITURE, 1926-27.

On the Expenditure side the most important variations are an excess of 67 lakhs in the net Military expenditure and a saving of 82 lakhs on interest on dead-weight debt. The latter is due to the reduction in the rate of interest paid on new borrowings. The excess on the Military Budget arises mainly from the necessity of increased expenditure on purchase and manufacture of ordnance and other stores amounting to 70 lakhs. Unfortunately this is not a non-recurrent but a recurrent increase explainable by the fact that we have come to the end of our power to draw on the surplus stores left over after the War.

The revised estimate of revenue comes to 130.25 crores and the revised estimate of expenditure to 127.15 crores as compared with the original estimate of 130.43 crores and 130.38 crores. Thus for the fourth year in succession we are left with a realised surplus. The revised Budget of 1926-27 shows a balance on the right side of 3.10 crores.

The following statement shows the main variations in the revised estimate in lakhs of rupees:—

	Better.	Worse.
Customs	1,30	
Taxes on Income		29
Salt		20
Opium (net)	86	
Interest receipts	34	
Extraordinary receipts ..	36	
Interest on dead-weight debt.	82	
Civil Administration ..	18	
Military Expenditure (net)		67
Other heads	35	
	4,21	1,16
Total, better	3,05	
Budget surplus ..	5	
Revised surplus ..	3,10	

These figures are drawn up on the basis which has been customary for the purpose of the presentation of the Indian Budget for many years, but, as pointed out by the Public Accounts Committee in their Report on the Accounts of the year 1924-25, they do not, strictly speaking, represent either the gross or the net revenue and expenditure of the Government of India. A break of continuity is always to be deprecated and I have not thought it desirable to depart from the method of presentation sanctioned by past practice. There are indeed drawbacks in any form that might be adopted. But that the present form, is, in some ways, inconvenient and may even be misleading is illustrated by our experience in 1926-27. In spite of considerable improvements in the main Revenue heads, it is very surprising to discover that the revised estimate of revenue for 1926-27 actually shows a decline of 18 lakhs as compared with the original estimate. The explanation has to be found in the way in which the Railway figures are brought into the figures of the General Budget. Both the receipts and expenditure on Railway Account, which appear as items in the General Budget, are substantially lower in the revised Budget than in the original. Yet the Railway contribution is exactly as originally estimated and has undergone no change whatever. The revised surplus of 3.10 crores for 1926-27 is accounted for to the extent of rather over 2 crores by a real improvement in our revenue; yet the revised figure for revenue is less than the original. The figures of net revenue and expenditure referred to below give a truer picture in this respect. On the other hand, the net figures tend to obscure the magnitude of the Government of India's activities and of the expenditure which they and the Assembly control. We must turn to the gross figures to get an adequate conception of what these are.

The gross expenditure of the Government of India including the working expenses of the Railways and of the Posts and Telegraphs and Irrigation Departments aggregates well over 200 crores. The exact figure is 204.72 crores. Even this figure excludes certain small items of expenditure which are shown net —not gross—in our accounts. I have not imposed on the Finance Department' to whose loyal and exacting labours during the Budget season the Government and the Assembly and in a special degree the Finance Member are deeply indebted, the task of arriving at exact figures in this connection. For the purpose of presentation of the facts to the House and the country, the gross expenditure figure of 204.72 crores conveys a sufficiently true picture.

The task of working out accurate figures of our net revenue and expenditure requires preliminary decisions on many problematical points, for example, the question arises whether expenditure on the collection of taxes should appear as expenditure or as a deduction from the revenue raised by means of those taxes; or again, whether the interest received on our advances to the Provincial Loans Account should be treated as a deduction from our interest charges or as revenue. Statement D of the Budget sets out the figures of net revenue and expenditure on the same basis as last year. According to that Statement, our net expenditure amounts to 84.07 crores. One fact which the figures of net revenue and expenditure bring out with somewhat startling clearness is the extent to which under the Reformed constitution the activities of the Government of India have been transferred to the Provincial Governments, the functions of the Central Government being limited in the main to the defence of India, her relations, with the exterior and with the Indian Princes, major communications, the Public Debt and the Currency, some miscellaneous duties in connection with subjects such as surveys, archaeology and research, and the responsibility for general superintendence, direction and control of the Provincial Governments.

WAYS AND MEANS AND PUBLIC DEBT.

Before proceeding to set out the figures for 1927-28, I propose to turn next to the Ways and Means Budget and the Public Debt, the portion of the annual financial statement which enshrines the permanent tendencies and results of financial policy. The Ways and Means position may be briefly summarised as follows:—

	(Crores.) Revised, 1926-27	Budget. 1927-28
Liabilities.		
Railway Capital Outlay ..	27.0	25.0
Other capital outlay (including Delhi, Posts and Telegraphs, Vizagapatam Harbour, etc.)	2.0	2.2
Provincial Governments' transactions	8.9	6.4
Discharge of debt (net) ..	37.0	20.5
	74.9	54.1
Resources.		
Rupee loan (net) ..	26.0	27.0
Postal Cash Certificates ..	6.1	5.4
Other unfunded debt (including Postal Savings Bank)	6.6	6.2
Debt redemption	5.1	5.2
Depreciation and Reserve Funds	6.1	2.7
Exchange	10.4	—.5
Miscellaneous (net). ..	4.4	—2.2
Reduction of cash balance..	10.2	10.3
	74.9	54.1

Once again the position revealed by these figures is extremely gratifying. The net amount of the new market loan, 26 crores, in 1926-27 was less than the amount of our railway capital expenditure alone, and considerably less than the total figure of productive capital outlay. In 1926-27, against 26 crores borrowed in the open market, we shall have discharged debt amounting to 37 crores, including 8.18 crores of Treasury Bills held in the Paper Currency Reserve. The amount of debt which we expect to have to discharge in India in 1927-28 is about 18 crores, while the tentative figure for the money to be raised by a loan in the open market is 27 crores. We hope to finance practically the whole of our own programme amounting to some 27 crores of capital expenditure on reproductive enterprises in 1927-28 and the capital programmes of the Provincial Governments, also, while asking the market for less than 10 crores of new money. In these circumstances, we have reason to hope that this sum together with the money which we need to replace maturing debt, including if we so decide, conversion of some of the bonds maturing after 1927, will be forthcoming on favourable terms.

We have successfully avoided the issue of any new sterling loan since May 1923, and the Budget includes no provision for any external loan in 1927-28. On the contrary, it includes provision for repaying £2.7 million in London. In this connection, the House will be interested to know that since the end of the financial year 1923-24, the last year in which we issued a sterling loan, up to 31st March 1927, we have spent outside India £26.2 million for purposes of capital outlay and £9.9 million on reduction of sterling debt, a total of £36.1 million. The whole of this outlay has been financed without

(Continued on page 11.)

Sir Basil Blackett introduced the Budget for the next year in the Legislative Assembly last evening. It is a surplus budget because it is calculated on the 16d. ratio. The Finance Member expects to realise a surplus of Rs. 3,10 crores this year and of Rs. 3.70 crores next year, the total revenue and expenditure for next year. being Rs. 128.96 crores and Rs. 125.26 crores respectively. If the figures were calculated on the basis of 16d. ratio the position would be worsened by 5.26 crores, that is, instead of a surplus there would be a deficit of 1.56 crores. The seeming prosperity of the budget is, therefore, a transparent attempt to force the Assembly to accept the 18d. ratio. For the Assembly and the country are, with mephistophelean cunning, faced with the choice of either accepting the 18 penny rupee and the substantial remission of provincial contributions which are promised and which the higher ratio renders possible or face a substantial deficit.

The final results of 1925-26 show an actual surplus of 3.31 crores as against the revised estimates of 1.50 crores. The revised estimate of revenue for 1926-27 is 130.25 compared with the original estimate of 130.43 crores as against 130.38 crores.

Customs revenue yield 1,30 crores more than anticipated, steel protective duties produce 2.85 crores as against an estimate of 2.35 crores, opium yields 86 lakhs more than the estimate of 3.12 crores on the expenditure there is an excess of 67 lakhs in military expenditure.

The estimated revenue for 1927-28 is 128.96 crores and expenditure 125.26 crores leaving a surplus of 3,70 crores.

Military expenditure as usual takes up the bulk of revenue. The budgeted figure is Rs. 54.92 crores which is 10 per cent. above the standard of Inchcape Committee, though retrenchment in military and civil expenditure would have been sufficient to rendor migsatory the threat of a deficit on a 16d rupee.

Under civil expenditure then most pronunent item is the provision of Rs. 12 lakhs, being part of a five-year expenditure of 29-3/4 lakhs, on educational improvement in the Frontier Provinces and territories directly under the Government of India, including the introduction of compulsory education in Delhi.

The surplus is to be utilized, as the Finance Member said, to set India free from the incubus of Provincial Contributions. The remissions will be in accordance with the Devolution Rules, Bombay's share of recurring remission will be 19 lakhs and of non-recurring remission of 37 lakhs. In addition to this relief, Bombay will get out of the surplus of the current year 28 lakhs, being one half of her contribution to income-tax. The remissions will not be permanent but contingent on a recurring surplus. There is no increase in present level of taxation. However minor adjustments are suggested. The Stamp Duty on cheques and Bills of exchange payable on demand is abolished.

The export duty on hides is abolished. So also the export duty on tea, but the tea companies are to be assessed to income tax at 50 per cent. of their total net income.

The import duty on motor car is reduced from 30 to 20 per cent. and on tyres from 30 to 15 per cent. and the import duty on rubber seeds and rubber stumps is abolished. The Import duty on tobacco is raised from Re. 1 to Rs. 1-8 per lb.

Apart from the loss of 5 lakhs on stamp duty on cheques which will not affect the Central Government the proposed reductions and changes in taxation will involve a diminution of revenue by 24 lakhs.

The Government do not propose to raise any money for capital expenditure except asking the Indian market for less than 10 crores of new money. The Government do not propose to raise any new external loan in 1927-28.

The Budget is not a poor man's budget because there is no reduction in salt duty or in postal rates.

NEW RUPEE LOAN OF 10 CRORES.

BUDGET AT A GLANCE.

1926-27	IN CRORES
REVISED ESTIMATES OF REVENUE	130.25
" " OF EXPENDITURE	127.15
SURPLUS	3.10
1927-28	
REVENUE	128.96
EXPENDITURE	125.26
SURPLUS	3.70

UNIQUE HONOUR TO COMRADE "SAK"!

BOMBAY CORPORATION REFUSES AN ADDRESS.

COMMUNIST BOGEY IN EXCELSIS.

A simple proposition for the presentation of an address to Mr. Saklatvala was made into a first class political issue and unnecessary heat was imported into the discussion. Mr. Mody declared categorically that Comrade had done nothing for India, while others of his ilk denounced him as a fanatic and Bolshevik. Finally, the City Fathers resolved by a majority not to present an address to Mr. Saklatwala.

CITY'S NEW CIVIC TRADITION.

The Bombay Municipal Corporation on Monday after discussing for two hours threw off the resolution of Mr. K. F. Nariman to vote an address to Mr. Shapurji Saklatwalla M.P. It was a full dress debate and members of both the parties viz:—Nationalists and Progressive mustered strong. Speeches on communism and against Mr. Saklatwalla were made by some of the members of the Progressive party in vehement and derogatory terms while these of the Nationalists Party confined their speeches to the narrow point of giving a Farewell Address to Mr. Saklatwalla only on his personal achievements as an Indian and assured Mr. H. P. Mody the leader of the Progressive party that if someday a resolution was brought to honour a member of his party, the Nationalist party would not be mean and ungenerous to oppose it. The appeal to the sentiment and emotion of the Progressive party was of no avail and a solid block was arraigned against the porposition which they were determined to overthrow at any cost. Mr. L. R. Tairsee seeing the tendency of the house pointedly remarked that it was not the question of merit whether an address should be voted or not but only of the strength of the party and whichever party was strong would go in flying colours. He, therefore, advised in the interests of peace and harmony of the Corporation to drop the question of voting the address as it had created acrimonious discussion. Sir Dinshaw M. Petit created a sensation in the house by challenging to get requisition signed by more than 600 citizens to vote an address for anybody, including Babu Chasmawalla. The proposition was, however, carried to the division and lost by 31 voted against 47. Mr. J. B. Boman Behram who was one of the sponsors of the resolution as a seconder refused to vote for it when the question went to the division.

After some preliminary business was gone through Mr. K. F. Nariman asked for priority of his resolution which being granted, the president, Mr. R. M. Chinoy read the following resolution on behalf of Mr. Nariman who could not do himself owing to sore throat:—That the Corporation does vote a Farewell Address to Mr. Shapurji Saklatwalla, M. P. on the occasion of his departure from these shores.

That a Committee composed of the following councillors be appointed to draft the address in consultation with the commissioner:—

(1) The president (2) Chairman of the Standing Committee, (3) Mr. I. B. Boman Behram (4) Mr. Vitahaldas D. Govindji (5) Mr. Hooseinbhoy A. Laljee (6) Dr. M. B. Velkar (7) Dr. A. G. Viegas (8) Dr. G. V. Deshmukh (9) Mr. S. K. Bole (10) Mr. E. R. Hirji Behdin (11) Mr. B. G. Horniman (12) Mrs. Sarojini Naidu (13) Mr. K. F. Nariman.

That the Corporation will be prepared on the recommendation of the Standing Committee to sanction the necessary grant not exceeding Rs. 150— to meet the incidental charges.

That the Committee be requested to submit their report at any adjourned meeting of the Corporation.

MONSTER REQUISITION

The president them announced that he had received a requisition signed by 600 citizens in favour of voting the address which has already been published in the newspapers.

Mr. J. B. Boman Behram seconded the proposition, reserving his remarks.

Dr. A. G. Viegas who was the first speaker set the ball rolling on the discussion by asking whether it was true that Communism was identified with the reign of terrorism and that as principles were revolutionary Neither the proposer of the motion nor the seconder had said a single word in support of the proposition and he failed to understand how to vote. If the Communist principles were revolutionary that is, to do away with state and property he said he would oppose it but if it was only to raise the condition of labour, he would give him support.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh in disarming the fears of Dr. Viegas said the question before the house was not of Communism but to honour a citizen born in Bombay who had returned to his motherland after some years. Mr. Saklatwalla was in India for some time past and in none of his speeches he had advocated violent or revolutionary methods or principles. On the other hand, he had preached the brotherhood of man and emancipation of Labour and it was but right for an enlightened body like the Municipal Corporation to give an address to an enlighened citizen like Mr. Saklatwalla. Communism preached no violence but supremacy of Labour over everything else. In Russia they gave supremacy to Labour and he appealed to the House not to remain behind other Corporations of India which had given addresses to Mr. Saklatwalla.

"DID NOTHING FOR INDIA."

Mr. H. P. Mody who on rising received cheers from his party regretted that in opposing the resolution he had to do a very disagreeable duty. It had only disturbed the harmony of the House which had prevailed for some time past. An appeal was made to the house that this being an address of mere words of welcome need not be confused with politics, but he said they could not separate that address from the politics which Mr. Saklatwalla proclaimed. If they were going to give an address for his achievement as a member of Parliament then he asked why they did not vote addresses to men ke Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, Mr. Ker Hardie and Sir William Wederburn who had spent the best years of their lives for fighting for India's freedom, when they came to India Then, he said, Sir Muncherji Bhavanagri was also an Indian and was returned to the House of Commons three times and yet no address was voted for him and he failed to see why they had singled out Mr. Saklatwalla only for the address. Mr. Saklatwalla, Mr. Mody said had done nothing for India in Parliament to deserve an address. He had not spoken a word on important subjects like Indianisation of the service and currency question. Mr. Mody did not deduce one single intelligible principle for which Mr. Saklatwalla in his speech stood for India except a federation of Workers throughout the world and the domination of the proletariat. Mr. Mody then quoted some sentences from the speeches of Mr. Saklatwalla and said on 29-8-1925 speaking at Battersea he said he was a determined and impregnable enemy of the Union Jack and British imperialism and was out for revolution. On 30-11-1923 he said "All honour and glory to Bolshevism" On 29-8-1926 in a speech he said he was out for revolution till Labour controlled the whole world. Mr. Mody concluded his speech by saying Mr. Saklatwalla was a rank and undignified Communist and asked the House why they did not vote addresses for Pandit M. Malavia, Pandit Motilal Nehru and Mr. Sastri who had done greater service to India than Mr. Saklatwalla?

Mr. Balubhai T. Desai in supporting the motion said Mr. Saklatwalla was against imperialism and also against the boycott of British goods but he was for the freedom of Labour of the whole world from the capitalism and bureaucracy that had overawed them. He was held in admiration in India because he was out to raise Labour from degeeration and disintegration and make it free from the terrorism of the capitalists. He had not uttered a word in support of anarchism and revolution and if any such words were put in his mouth he said, perversity could not go further.

CHAMPION OF OUR CAUSE.

Mr. E. R. Hirjeebehdin in further supporting the motion said ever since Mr. Mody heard that a motion was to be brought in the Corporation to vote an address to Comrade Saklatwalla he (Mr. Mody) had passed restless days and sleepless nights. They generally gave addresses to the representatives of H. M. the King Emperor but the citizens of Bombay never gave their hearts in thousands as they did in according spontaneously honour to the Grand Old Man Dadabhoy Nowroji, a few years ago and to Mr. Saklatwalla only recently. The most enthusiastic and spontaneous welcome which they received in Bombay would make even a prince jealous. The very fact that every one of the meeting addressed by Mr. Saklatwalla was over-crowded to suffocation and days before he started for lecturing tours thousands of people eager to hear him only proved the estimation and regard in which he (Mr. Saklatwalla) was held all throughout India. The citizens of Bombay knew their man and he challenged the superiority of any member of the Corporation to sit in judgment on the choice of the rate payers. He refused to compare Comrade Saklatwalla with an obscure parliamentarian like Sir M. Bhownagri and said Mr. Saklatwalla had fought singlehanded the sundried bureaucrats of the India Office and during the budget discussion in the House of Commons he was practically the only man to champion the cause of India. He had condemned diarchy and exposed the sham Montford Reforms and the speaker appealed to the house to support the resolution whole heartedly.

"FANATIC AND BOLSHEVIK."

Sir P. C. Sethna reminded the Corporation that for sixty years they had voted addresses only for the representatives of the sovereign and had given addresses to three Indians, viz: Dadabhoy Nowroji, Lord Sinna and Mahatma Gandhi. The president had placed before them a requisition of 600 well known citizens and while glancing at the list he found Mr. Jhabwalla and B. F. Bhrauchas topping the list. Nay, Mr. Jhabwalla he said had signed twice and for ought he knew many other might have sined it twice or thrice. He advised the House not to follow the example of the other Municipalities that gave addresses to Mr. Saklatwalla, but to maintain the high tradition and standard of Bombay Municipal Corporation of voting address to the best member. Sir P. C. Sethna then read from the cuttings from several newspapers in regard to the actitivites of Mr. Saklatwalla and quoted the following statement of Mr. Kellogg before the senate of U. S. A. as to why visa was refused to Mr. Saklatwalla in going to America.

The VISA was granted to Mr. Saklatwalla under general instructions to grant them to the delegates of all countries attending the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Certain speeches of Mr. Saklatwalla subsequent to the granting of the VISAS did not reach the attention of the State Department until within the past few days and the Department instructed the Consul-General to revoke the VISA on the ground that Mr. Saklatwalla's admission into the United States would be inconsistant with the immigration Law.

The statement quotes the speech of Mr. Saklatwalla in the House of Commons in which he pleaded guilty of Communist propaganda and also the speech delivered on the 29th. August to the National Hinority Party in which Mr. Saklatwalla said he would work for revolution.

Mr. Kellogg points out that Mr. Saklatwalla was not appointed nor selected by the British Government as a delegate and said he knew of no reason why Mr. Saklatwalla should be any more exempted from the Immigration Law than the humblest immigrant who holds subversive or revolutionary views or carries on propoganda contrary to our institutions. Sir P. C. Sethna in conclusion as a director of Tata Iron and Steel Co., said it was not true that Mr. Saklatwalla had made a great sacrifice and appealed to the house not to vote an address to a fanatic and a Bolshevic.

Mr. B. G. Horniman regretted that the discussion on the resolution was brought down to a low and heartless basis. In the past they had given addresses to men with whose politicel opinions they did not agree. They had given a farewell address to even Lord Lloyd who had done incalculable harm to the Bombay Presidency. The Corporation had also voted an address for Mahatma Gandhi with whose political opinion they did not agree and for Admiral Jellico who had seriously failed as an Admiral. He said from his personal knowledge of Mr. Saklatvala and the Communist Party that

(Continued on page 12.)

HINDU MUSLIM QUESTION.

LEADERS CONFER.

MINIMUM MUSLIM DEMANDS.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 28.

In view of the approaching meeting of the All-India Congress Committee, to which the Congress Working Committee is under obligation to report on the Hindu-Muslim question, attempts were made by Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar, the President of the Congress, to ascertain the minimum demands of Muslims through their representatives on the central legislature.

Mr. Iyengar was "At Home" to the members of the Central Legislature on Thursday evening. Nearly all Muslim members of the Central Legislature who were in New Delhi responded to the invitation.

It is understood Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar expressed it as his personal opinion that communal electorate should be abolished. He offered to act as an intermediary between the two communities and support any settlement that was acceptable to the two communities. Muslim members, it is understood, stated that their demands were embodied in the resolution of the All-India Muslim League, and appointed Mr. M. A. Jinnah as their accredited representative for the conduct of pourparlours with the Hindu leaders.

It is understood Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar and Mr. M. A. Jinnah are in conversations with Lala Lajpat Rai and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya in this behalf.—Free Press.

S. AFRICAN AGREEMENT

NDI AN COMMUNITY'S JUDG MENT ON 12TH

TO FOLLOW MAHATMA'S LEAD.

(From Mr. C. F. Andrws.)

DANNHAUSER, Feb. 28.

"The Indian community is giving its fully-considered judgment on the South African Agreement on March 12. The decision is likely to follow Mahatma's lead, stressing also great gain of educational facilities, and promising self-help towards educational improvement."

(Continued from column 6.)

The third reading of the Bill was then carried without a division, clause by clause.

The Hon. Dewan Bahadur Harilal Desai moved:—

"This House recommends to Government to approve the scheme for the appointment of a Professor of Applied Chemistry and Physics at the Grant Medical College, Bombay, subject to the reconsideration of salary by Government."

Mr. Ginwalla moved an amendment to the effect that Government should be requested to reconsider the question of pay. Dr. Dixit wanted to fix the pay at Rs. 200.

The original motion was then put to vote and declared carried.

ACQUISITION OF SAILORS' HOME.

The Hon. Sir Chunilal Mehta then moved the following resolution:—

"That this House approves of the acquisition of the Sailors' Home and the plans for the proposed new Council Hall, and recommends to Government that they should proceed with the work subject to a limit of expenditure of Rs. 8,30,000."

Dilating upon the necessity of a Council Hall, the Finance Member remarked that the House had got to be such as could provide facilities for all members to hear properly. The speaker informed that the question had been referrd to the Finance Committee and it was in pursuance of the desire of that Committee that he felt bound to bring before the House that resolution.

COST OF THE HOME.

The speaker further informed that the acquisition of the building would cost nearly Rs. 4,40,000. The magnificent house of that type built half a century ago, could not be had for a less price. It was proposed to build a Council Hall just inside that Home. There would be rooms for the President and various Committees. Rs. 2,30,000 would have to be spent on the construction of the Council Hall. In all, the total expenditure was expected to be somewhere in the nighbourhood of Rs. 8,30,000. The Finance Member submitted that it was not a directly productive scheme bu tit had to be gone through. The money had to be taken from loans and the speaker told that the annual interest on the sum would be a little less than Rs. 50,000.

Mr. Dadubhai P. Desai:—Can a portion of the property be sold to recover some money?

The Finance Mmeber:—Even shops can be built if it pleases the House.

Mr. R. G. Pradhan (Nasik Dsitrict) moved an amendment to the resolution asking to limit the immediate expendituure to Rs. 4,44,000 only to be met by Government contribution and postpone the question of further expenditure till the budget promised a satisfactory surplus.

GROUNDS OF ECONOMY.

Mr. F. J. Ginwalla (Bombay-North) opposed both the resolution and the amendment. He said he was opposing it on the grounds of economy.

LUXURY VS. STARVATION.

Mr. J. C. Swaminarayan (Ahmedabad District) regretted the fact that they were finding luxurious accommodation for themselves while the Presidency was labouring under a condition of starvation. He asked the House to postpone the consideration of the hall till the Backbay Reclamation Scheme was completed.

Rao Bahadur R. R. Kale (Satara District) and Mr. Joe Addyman supported the resolution. Mr. Abdul Latif Haji H. Khan, speaking on the resolution, wanted a hostel to be attached to the new Council Hall. He supported the resolution. Mr. Naraindas Bechar, in very trenchant tones, opposed the fresh expenditure which the acquisition of the Sailors' Home involved. Referring to Moulvi Rafiuddin's plea of inconsistency, the speaker satirically observed that consistency was a bugbear of fools.

Mr. R. G. Pradhan then asked leave of the House to withdraw his amendment. A dissentient voice made the permission impossible. The amendment was consequently put to vote and declared lost. The original resolution of the Finance Member sanctioning acquisition of the Sailors' Home, was then put to vote. A division was granted on demand. 52 members voted for the proposition and 24 against. The resolution was then duly declared carried.

The House then rose for the day. It meets to-day at 12 noon. The members will attend the Government House Party at 4-30 p.m.

NEW COUNCIL HALL FOR BOMBAY.

"WAIT TILL THE RECLAMATION" SAYS MR. SWAMINARAYAN.

ACQUISITION OF SAILORS' HOME APPROVED.

Among the bills that were submitted on Monday to the Council, the most important was that of the Finance Member for the acquisition of the Sailors' Home for the proposed new Council Hall.

Mr. R. G. Pradhan moved an amendment restricting the expenditure while Mr. Swaminarayan asked the House to wait till he reclamation was complete and select a spot in the reclaimed area.

By 52 votes to 24, the House approved the scheme of the Finance Member.

CITY MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT PASSED.

When the Council met again on Monday afternoon, it proceeded with the questions and answers. Printed copies of answers were already in the hands of members and a series of supplementary questions would elicit no further information from the Government members.

The proceedings of the earlier part of the day were boringly bumdrum but late in the afternoon there was a change for the better.

The Hon. Dewan Bahadur Harilal Desai then moved the Bill further to amend the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Under section 17 of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, the normal period of a Municipality constituted under that Act is three years. Under section 24 of the Bombay City Municipalities Act, 1925, Councillors elected or nominated under the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, and deemed to have been elected or nominated under subsection (3) of section 9 of the first-mentioned Act continue to hold office for the term for which they were originally elected or nominated under the Act of 1901. When this provision was inserted in the Act of 1925 it was expected that the time given to the newly constituted borough municipalities would be sufficient to enable them to digest the provisions of the new Act and to frame rules for the holding of new elections. Unfortunately this expectation has not been realized in the case of some Municipalities which have not been able to frame proper rules within the time allowed. In other cases election purporting to be held under the new Act had to be declared invalid. In some cases, the term of office of the Municipalities has expired without fresh elections having been made under the new Act. To avoid further complications it is proposed to take the power of extending beyond the period prescribed by section 24 of the new Act and upto a date not later than the 31st December, 1927, the life of an expiring Municipality and of a Municipality whose term has expired, validating all acts and proceedings done by the latter Municipality as from the date of expiry of its original term of office. Councillors of Municipalities the term of office of which has expired, and who have not been duly elected in accordance with the provisions of the new Act, will vacate their offices.

The Act makes no provision for the disposal of the property of a Municipality in a Municipal Borough after the Municipality has ceased to function. Such provision appears necessary. Clause 2 of the Bill makes the necessary provision.

SOME FEATURES OF THE BILL.

The Act will be called the Bombay City Municipalities (Amendment) Act. When the Municipality ceases to exist on account of its members ceasing to hold office, the property and rights vested in the Municipality, vest in His Majesty and the proceeds thereof, if any, shall be expended under the orders of the Government for the benefit of local area in which such Municipality had jurisdiction. The Government can extend the term of office of any Municipality for a period up to a date not before 31st day of December 1927. Any Municipality which has not been constituted in accordance with the provisions of this Act, save where it is otherwise provided in this Act, be decided not to have been duly constituted and its members, both elected and nominated, shall be deemed not to have been duly elected and nominated.

Rao Saheb D. R. Patel (East Khandesh) supported the first reading of the bill.

SHEER INJUSTICE.

Rao Saheb R. V. Wandekar (Nasik District) pleaded that it would be sheer injustice on the part of the Government if another fresh election were inflicted upon the Nasik Municipality.

Mr. C. W. A. Turner, the Secretary to Government, General Department, supported the bill. Mr. Naraindas Bechar (Karachi City) opposed the principle that Municipalities should be divided into various communal sections. Mr. R. S. Asavale questioned why at all any permission was granted to the Municipalities of Nasik and Bhusaval if the Government insisted on fresh elections. He had no grudges, he expressed, if the Government gave separate elections to depressed classes.

RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT.

Mr. Balak Ram, the Secretary to Legal Department, asked the House to go on the merits of the bill. The bill was intended, he went on, to give retrospective effect to the Municipalities already constituted according to the New Act. The Act would further stop a lot of litigation on the parts of Municipal Members.

Moulavi Rafiuddin Ahmad supported the first reading of the bill.

Dr. M. K. Dixit (Surat City) could not understand why the measure of that kind was necessary at all. Concluding he requested the House not to oppose the bill.

The Hon. Dewan Bahadur Harilal Desai informed that Municipal elections of Bhusaval and Nasik had been held inspite of the Government's proposal to frame rules for proper election.

The first reading of the bill was put to vote and carried. The mover then moved the bill for the second reading.

AN AMENDMENT.

Rao Saheb D. R. Patil proposed the following amendment.

Whatever elections have already taken place and where the conditions under the new Act have been fulfilled, they should be considered legal and valid. The Act should be amended with this proviso.

Dr. Dixit: How can the illegal elections be validated?

The bill was read for the second time and declared carried. It was then carried clause by clause for the third reading.

NO MORE FEES.

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Harilal Desai then proposed the first reading of the bill to amend the City of Bombay Improvement Trust Transfer Act, 1925. The bill is intended to give effect to the resolution of the Board of Trustees for the improvement of the city of Bombay that no fees be paid in respect of meetings of Sub-Committees.

DIFFICULTY OF A QUORUM.

Mr. Hoosenally M. Rahimtoola (Bombay City) opposed the first reading and while doing so observed that if the allowance proposed to be given to the Sub-Committees of the Improvement Trust, were stopped, there won't be any quorum for meetings.

Mr. P. J. Murzban (Bombay-South) observed that the Sub-Committees had as arduous task to perform as any other important Committee.

Messrs. S. K. Bole and Hoosienbhoy A. Laiji also supported the first reading of the Bill.

The bittest opposition to the bill came from Sir Vasantrao Dabholkar who expressed himself entirely against the principle embodied in the bill. It was impossible, he continued, to get the quorums for meetings if the members were not adequately paid for their attendance.

THE CIVIC SENSE.

Mr. K. S. Firodea (Ahmednagar District) supported the bill.

Dr. Dixit held that the payment to members on the Improvement Trust, was tending to demoralise the whole system.

The first reading of the bill was then carried, after which the mover proposed the second reading and got that also carried.

DELETION OF SECTION 19.

Mr. K. S. Firodea moved an amendment that the whole of the Section 19 of the original Act should be omitted.

The President was a little puzzled whether the amendment could be admitted under the rules. Secretary to Legal Department found nothing illegal in the situation. The amendment was admitted.

Mr. G. L. Winterbotham asked if the House could dictate anything of that kind to the Improvement Trust.

Rao Saheb D. P. Desai argued that the House could impose conditions upon any sub-bodies brought into being by the House.

Mr. R. S. Asavale opposed the amendment on the plea that the House should not run counter to the wishes of its subordinate bodies.

Mr. F. J. Ginwalla also opposed the amendment and held that right sort of men could not be forthcoming if the payments were stopped.

Mr. G. I. Patel supported the amendment and observed that refused to pay to other Committees would follow as a consequence the refusal to pay to sub-Committees.

Mr. Hon. Dewan Bahadur Harilal Desai wound up the discussion on the amendment from the Government side. He held that it was wise on the part of the House to refer the subject matter of the amendment to the Improvement Trust for the opinion of that body. However he left the question to the discretion of the House.

The amendment of Mr. Firodia purporting to delete the whole of the clause 19 from the original Act, was then put to vote. The division was pressed and granted. 25 voted for the amendment and 41 against. The amendment was, therefore, duly declared lost.

POINT OF ORDER.

Mr. B. G. Pahaljani then raised an important point of order. "Can the Government members vote when one of them says that a particular question has been left to the House"?

The Hon. Sir Chunilal Mehta:—"The House in this particular instance means the whole body of the Council irrespective of any distinction. It certainly does not prevent a Government member from voting."

The President:—"This is an extremely important point. I wish to look into the rulings given on previous occasions. Subject to that I agree with the leader of the House that the House means the free vote of every member. Government members are at liberty to vote as they like. However, the Government as a body should not be seen canvassing for votes when they say that they have left the question to the House."

(Continued in column 3.)

BLACKETT'S PARTING SHOT.

(Continued from page 9.)

resort to external borrowing. We expect during 1927-28 to spend £8.7 million on capital account outside India, and £2.7 million on reduction of sterling debt, a total for 1927-28 of £11.4 million. If, therefore, as we hope, we avoid sterling borrowing in 1927-28, we shall have covered about £48 million of capital disbursements outside India without borrowing abroad. Our remittance programme for 1927-28, for purposes of our outgoings both on capital and on revenue account, amounts to £351-2 million as compared with a revised estimate of £27½ million for 1926-27.

I am once again tempted to invite attention to the market prices of Indian Government securities in India which show how greatly India's credit has improved within recent years.

	Market price on				
	1st February 1923	1st February 1924	1st February 1925	1st February 1926	1st February 1927
	Rs. A	Rs. A	Rs. A	Rs. A	Rs. A
5 per cent Tax-free loan, 1945-55	88 4	96 10	97 15	100 12	107 5
3 1-2 per cent Indian Government rupee loan	57 0	66 0	66 9	70 8	77 7

The following further figures which compare the prices of India stock and other stock in London on certain dates are also very significant and support the conclusion which I drew last year, namely, that the credit of the Government of India stands considerably higher in the London market in relation to the British Government and other gilt-edged borrowers than it did either in 1914 or 1923, or, for the matter of that, in 1926. While the prices of British Government and other securities have actually gone down during 1926, those of India stock show an appreciable improvement:—

	30th April 1914	30th April 1923	1st February 1926	31st December 1926
India 3 per cent loan ..	75 1-4	60 1-4	58	59 3-4
India 3 1-2 per cent loan ..	88 1-4	70 1-4	68	71 1-4
Local loans 3 per cent stock ..	87	69 1-8	64 1-4	63 1-8
London County Council:				
3 1-2 stock	97	79 7-8	73	72 1-4
3 per cent stock	81	68 1-2	63	62

The fact which these figures bring out, that India 31-2 per cent rupee stock has been quoted for the last year at a figure appreciably higher than that at which India 31-2 per cent sterling stock has been obtainable in London, has led to very considerable transfers of money from India to London in order to take advantage of the higher yield of the sterling stock. In other words, in addition to the reduction of India's sterling debt due to direct Government action, individual Indian investors have been reducing India's external liabilities by themselves buying back the titles to some part of her sterling loans and transferring them into Indian hands. This process may legitimately be regarded as the first step towards India's becoming a creditor nation in the ordinary sense of that phrase. She is, of course, already a creditor nation in the sense that she regularly exports more commodities than she imports, but hitherto she has been content to take payment mainly in the precious metals. The process to which I have referred is one which offers great hopes for the future. It has not, however, been without some temporary inconveniences, and a major cause of comparative weakness of exchange during the year 1926-27 has undoubtedly been the movement of capita from India to London due to the higherl rates for both long-term and short-term money which have prevailed in London for the greater part o f the financial year. A fall in the rates for money in London is, I hope, within sight and will be of material assistance to India in helping to consolidate the improved market prices for Indian Government stocks in India.

The following statement carries on for a further year the figures regarding India's debt which I gave in my last Budget Speech—

Statement showing the Debt of India, outstanding at the close of each financial year.

	31st March 1923	31st March 1924	31st March 1925	31st March 1926	31st March 1927
	In crores of rupees				
In India:					
Loans	339.83	358.81	370.38	368.29	374.48
Treasury Bills in the hands of the public	21.59	2.12	..	..	..
Treasury Bills in the Paper Currency Reserve ..	49.65	49.65	49.65	49.65	4147
Other Obligations—					
Post Office Savings Banks	23.20	24.79	25.64	27.23	29.12
Cash Certificates ..	3.13	8.42	13.12	20.96	27.04
Provident Funds, etc.	36.17	39.00	42.39	42.36	51.03
Total Loans, etc.	411.07	410.58	420.03	417.94	415.95
Total Other Obligations	62.50	72.21	81.15	94.55	107.19
Total in India	473-57	482.79	501.18	512.49	523.14
In England:	(In millions of £)				
Loans	222.92	244.53	263.39	266.35	265.04
War Contribution ..	19.71	19.27	18.81	18.32	17.81
Capital value of liabilities undergoing redemption by way of terminable railway annuities	61.31	60.10	58.84	57.53	56.18
Provident Funds etc	.04	.13	.16	.21	.27
Total in England	303.98	324.03	341.20	342.41	339.30
	(In crores of rupees)				
7/8 Equivalent at 1s. 6d. to the Rupee	405.31	432.04	454.93	456.55	452.40
Total Debt	878.88	914.83	956.11	969.04	975.54
Productive for Central Government	536.65	557.09	600.05	623.38	654.42
for Provinces	87.49	97.56	106.43	114.60	119.41
Total Productive	624.14	654.65	706.48	737.98	773.83
Unproductive	254.74	260.18	249.63	231.06	201.71
Total	878.88	914.83	956.11	969.04	975.54
* At 1s. 4d. to the rupee the figures would be:—	455.97	486.04	511.80	513.61	508.95

In the year 1926-27, while our total debt will have increased from 969-04 to 975.54 crores, our sterling debt will have decreased from 456.55 to 452.40 crores. Our productive debt will have increased from 737.98 crores to 773.83 crores, and our unproductive debt will have decreased from 231.06 to 201.71 crores. Satisfactory as these figures are in themselves they are still more pleasing in their reaction on our Budget expenditure and on the rate of interest at which we borrow in India whether for new capital outlay for productive purposes or for repayment of maturing debt. Thanks mainly toour policy of making regular provision for reduction or avoidance of debt, we borrowed in the market in India at the rate of 4.69 per cent. subject to income-tax in1 926 as compared with 6 per cent tax-free in 1922, and the charge on the Budget of 1927-28 for interest on dead-weight debt is about 5-1-2 crores less than it was in 1923-24, a saving considerably larger than the totaamount of our present provision for reduction or avoidance of debt.

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1927-28.. REVENUE.

The ground is now cleared for the presentation of the figuresi-of revenue and ture of 1927-28. I put the net revenue from Customs at 49.15 crores, an increase of 2.75 crores over the original estimate and of 1.46 crores over the revised estimate for 1926-27. Allowance has been made for a reduction of about 40 lakhs in the revenue from protective duty on steel owing to the effect of the new Steel Industry Protection Bill. It is wise to anticipate some reduction in the imports of sugar as compared with the very high figures of the past two years. The reductions under these two heads should, however, be compensated for by the normal growth of revenue under other heads.

Under the head of 'Taxes on In-come,' I put our net receipts at 16.50 crores which is 35 lakhs more than the Budget figure for the current year and 65 lakhs more than the revised estimate. The improvement under this head is due in part to slightly more profitable trade generally and in part to the substitution of tax-subject for tax-free Government of India securities.

The original estimate of revenue from salt duty for 1926-27 was 6.90 crores and I put the figure for 1927.28 at 7 crores, the increase being justified on the basis of the normal growth in consumption.

Under the head 'Opium,' we have to allow for a reduction of 10 per cent in our exports in accordance with the policy announced last year. On the other hand, the considerable reduction which has been effected in the area of cultivation curtails our outgoings. I put the figure for gross revenue from Opium at 3.83 crores, which is 35 lakhs less than the revised figure for the current year, and the expenditure at 91 lakhs which is 16 lakhs than the figure in the revised estimates for 1926-27. The net revenue will accordingly be 2.92 crores as compared with 3.12 crores in the current year.

The net receipts from Railways for 1925-26 were considerably below those for 1924-25 and in spite of the increased value of 1 per cent on the capital charge, the contribution falls from 6.01 crores in 1926-27 to 5.48 crores in 1927-28.

Our receipts under other heads of revenue are estimated at 15.70 crores, being a reduction of 1.74 crores from the original estimate for 1926-27. This estimate assumes the continuance, pending the inauguration of the Reserve Bank, of the present practice of crediting to revenue the excess over £40 million in the Gold Standard Reserve and the income from investments of the Paper Currency Reserve. The amount of these receipts has, of course, been diminished as the result of the reduction both of the sterling and of the Government of India rupee securities in the latter Reserve.

Our total estimate of revenue for 1927-28 comes to 128.96 crores as compared with an original estimate of 130.43 crores for 1926.27 and a revised estimate of 130.25 crores.

EXPENDITURE.

I estimate our net military expenditure for 1927-28 at 54.92 crores,or almost the same figure as the original military estimate for 1926-27, but 63 lakhs less than the revised figure for that year. The disappearance of post-war charges for demobilised officers accounts for a saving of 64 lakhs, but this is counterbalanced by the extra provision necessary for the expansion of the Air Force, by increased expenditure on improving the barrack accommodation for both British and Indian troops and by the necessity for an additional outlay of 80 lakhs on ordnance and other stores to which I have already alluded. The following table exhibits the figures of net military expenditure for each year since 1921—22:—

1921-22	69.81 crores.
1922-23	65.27 ,,
1923-24	56.23 ,,
1924-25	55.63 ,,
1925-26	56.00 ,,
1926-27 (Revised estimate)	55.55 ,,
1927-28 (Budget estimate)	54.92 ,,

Though the Army has still considerable stocks of surplus stores for disposal, it is clear that we have practically come to the end of our power to reduce military expenditure by living upon existing stocks. The true reduction of expenditure in 1926-27 and 1927-28 as compared with the three previous years is considerably larger than the bare figures suggest, if allowance be made for the value of the stocks consumed but not paid for in the earlier years. Only the sternest economy and the strictest vigilance can now prevent our military Budget from showing a tendency to rise rather than to fall, and the present level of expenditure seems to be very nearly the minimum absolutely essentiol to maintain in a state of full efficiency an army of the strength at present authorised. It will interest the House to know that the figure of 54.92 crores for 1927-28 includes an additional provision of 5 lakhs in consequence of the decision to create the Royal Indian Navy. Of the savings the most important are 15 lakhs in pension charges and 13 lakhs in pay of British officers and troops.

The most significant variation in our Civil expenditure from the figures of the current year occurs under the head 'Interest on dead-weight debt,' which I put at 10.63 crores as compared with 12.53 crores in the Budget for the current year. I have already drawn attention to the way in which our steady adherence to the policy of making regular provision for reduction and avoidance of debt and confining new borrowings to productive purposes is bringing in an annual dividend to the tax-payer in the shape of a progressively increasing saving in the charge for interest on dead-weight debt. The saving in gross interest charges is not less striking and the people of India are securing year by year, in addition to the tax-payers' saving on interest on dead-weight debt, all the advantages of lower interest charges on the capital which is being newly invested in productive works of develgment. This benefit is felt alike by the Railways, the Irrigation and the Forest departments, and the Provincial Governments as a whole to whom an improvement in the credit of the Government of India brings a much-valued boon in bringing down the rate of interest they have to pay on the sums borrowed by them from the Provincial Loans Fund or direct from the market.

For the last two years, the Government of India have been seeking gradually to restore some of the cuts made on the advice of the Retrenchment Committee in the Government of India's expenditure on beneficial services. It is no reflection on the Retrenchment Committee to say that some of the cuts were short-sighted. Temporary expedients had to be adopted in the then existing financial situation. It was absolutely essential that expenditure should be reduced and it is to the labours of that Committee that we owe our present ability to take a somewhat longer view. Among the new items of expenditure, which have been approved by the Standing Finance Committee, I would draw special attention to the five-year programme for the expansion of education in the Frontier Provinces and other territories directly administered by the Government of India. This programme was drawn up by the Department of Education, Health and Lands on the suggestion of the Finance Department and is, we hope, only the first of a series of programmes relating to the other activities of that Department which largely monopolises the privilege, so far as the Government of India is concerned, of watching over those comparatively few services which have not been transferred to the Provincial Governments, where expenditure is directly and obviously related to the advancement of the social well-being of the masses of the people. The programmes for additional expenditure on sanitation and other services are not yet ready, though individual items of new expenditure on these services are included in the estimates for 1927-28. The educational programme which extends up to 1931-32 involves, during the five years, an additional non-recurring expenditure of 29 3-4 lakhs and a recurring expenditure, rising gradually from 4 lakhs in 1927-28 to 10-1-2 lakhs in 1931-32. The total amount of additional expenditure for the year 1927-28 is just under 12 lakhs. So long as the Provincial contributions remain unliquidated, the Government of India have felt themselves precluded from embarking on ambitious projects of optional expenditure within their own domain. But they feel it only right that citizens of the territories directly administered by them should not be required to forgo entirely their claim to a share in the surpluses which have enabled and are enabling the Government of India to effect a progressive reduction in the Provincial contributions. The educational schemes, on which the money will be spent, vary widely in character as do the areas for the administration of which the Government of India is responsible These areas include places as remote from each other as Manipur and the Andaman Islands on the east and Aden on the west and as divergent in area and population as the Province of Delhi and Baluchistan. The five-year programme is entirely based on estimates received from the local authorities of their present and future requirements. By far the major part of the grants will be devoted to the expansion and improvement of vernacular education; and among the more important of the proposals included in the programme are the introduction of compulsory education in the Imperial Capital and the opening of three hundred new primary schools in the North-West Frontier Province. With the funds now placed at their disposal the local administrators will be able to raise and maintain the standard of education in the areas under their charge, so far as the peculiar character of those areas admit, up to the standard reached in the neighbouring Provinces of British India.

For the year 1926-27 therevised Budget points to a net loss of 7 lakhs as compared with the original estimate of 10 lakhs on the working of the Indian Postal and Telegraph Department, to which must be added the loss of 2 lakhs as compared with an original estimate of 7 lakhs under the Indo-European Telegraph Department. In 1927-28 we expect to improve slightly on these results. The gross receipts of the Indian Postal and Telegraph Department are put at 10.80 crores while working expenses, inluding 57 lakhs for interest on capital, amount to a slightly larger total resulting in a net loss of Rs. 76,000 Provision has been made under the head of 'Working Expenses' for additional expenditure amounting to 12.14 lakhs for new measures specially designed to improve the pay and allowances of members of the subordinate staff of the Department whose grievances have been receiving the close and sympathetic attention of my Hon'ble Colleague Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra.

The Indian Postal and Telegraph Department is, as the House is aware treated not as a profit-earning institution but as an organisation whose energies are directed to supplying postal and telegraph facilities to the general public in as full a measure as is compatible with the fundamental principle that the Department should not be a burden on the general tax-payer. Under normal conditions, the working expenses and interest charges should be, as nearly as possible, the same as the gross revenue of the Department. With the gradual improvement in trade, it is permissible to hope that the revenues will grow to an extent sufficient to show a substantial surplus over working expenses and interest charges. But that happy state of affairs is not yet actually in sight. It is clear, therefore, that any important reduction in the present postal and telegraph rates cannot be secured without saddling the general taxpayer with the necessity of paying a heavy subsidy.

In the case of the Indo-European Telegraph Department, the estimated net results of working in 1927-28 show a small loss of 3 lakhs which is slightly more than the figure in the current year.

Our estimate of the aggregate expenditure of the Government for 1927-2 8 comes to 125.26 crores. Our estimate of revenue on the basis of existing taxation is, as already stated, 128.96 crores, resulting in a surplus of 3.70 cores.

The surpus of 3.70 crores for 1927-28 is arrived at on the assumption that there will be no departure during the year from the established drate of exchange of 1s. 6d. per rupee. The House will, I know, desire to be informed what effect a reduction of the rate of exchange from 1s. 6d. to 1s 4d. would have on the Budget figures which I have presented. It is by no means easy toarrive at an accurate estimate. In a statement which is being circulated to-day, the many and various considerations which have to be taken into account in order to show the effect of a reduction to 1s. 4d. on the Budget for 1927-28 are set out in some detail. The effect on the Budgets for the following years is also considered in the same statement. The conclusion arrived at is that on the assumption that during the year 1927-28 it will be unnecessary to compensate any Government employees in any way for the loss of approximately 11 per cent. in the value of their wages, the reduction of the ratio to 1s. 4d. would result in 1927-28 in a total worsening of our position by 5.26 crores. I do not feel that it is my duty to-day on behalf of the Government to make suggestions how the resulting deficit of 1.56 crores should be provided for. The ratio controversy will be discussed on its merits next week and it will be time enough, when that controversy has been decided, to consider in detail the reactions of the decision on our Budget. Nor is it my intention to-day to enter into any discussion of the merits of the rival ratios. It is enough to observe that if the Government are correct in their contention that an arbitrary reduction in the exchange value of the rupee will bring no permanent benefit whatever to India while inevitably involving immediate and heavy sacrifices and losses, then surely the large sacrifice involved in the dislocation of the Budget, though not necessarily the most serious of the sacrifices that would be incurred, is an important and relevant consideration which it would have been follly for us to ignore or obscure.

The following are the Finance Member's proposals for the next year:

The surplus of 3.70 crores is arrived at on the basis of the existing level of taxation. With 5.45 crores of Provincial contributions (apart from Bengal's contribution of 63 lakhs) still unliquidated, it is obvious that we cannot afford to give away any important portion of the surplus in reductions of taxation if we are to live up to our declared intention of directing our financial policy to the reduction and eventual extinction of the Provincial contributions as soon as may be. We are, therefore, not yet in a position to make full use of the valuable report of the Taxation Enquiry Committee whose recommendations the Government and the country have been studying during the past year. I shall, I hope, have the approval of the House in saying that our general policy as regards taxation ought to be directed first towards a more equitable distribution of its incidence, so far as that may be attainable with due regard to the other canons of taxation, and the abolition of those imposts which are obnoxious in principle, such as some of the existing export duties, and that, when our finances permit, we should aim at a gradual reduction of taxation to a level which will give some relief to the tax-payer and leave a larger margin available for the Provincial Governments' needs. Once the Provincial contributions have been extinguished, we shall find ourselves in a freer atmosphere in which we can consider the question of taxation entirely or almost entirely from the standpoint of the Central Administration. With a surplus of 3.70 crores, the House will, I hink, not desire us to propose additional taxation for the purpose of increasing the surplus. In 1927-28, therefore, we clearly cannot do more than effect minor changes, the net results of which will not be seriously to modify the surplus of revenue over expenditure.

EXPORT DUTY ON HIDES.

38. The first proposals which I have to put before the House in regard to taxation affect two of our existing export duties, the export duty on hides and the export duty on tea. The export duty on hides has been condemned by the Fiscal Commission and the Taxation Enquiry Committee as wrong in principle and dangerous in effects The trade is at present in a depressed condition and the Government have for some years seen no justification for the retention of the duty except on purely revenue grounds. The export duty on skins, which is open to some of the same objections, is both more productive and less positively harmful than the export duty on hides, and we do not feel that we are in a position this year to propose its reduction or abolition. We do, however, propose the immediate abolition of the export duty on hides involving a loss of 9 lakhs of revenue.

EXPORT DUTY ON TEA, ETC.

The export duty on tea brings in approximately 50 lakhs a year. Our finances clearly do not permit of its abolition unless we can find some means of compensating ourselves for the loss involved. Fortunately, we are in a position to make a proposal which will secure the disappearance of the export duty on tea with no ultimate loss to the revenue and at the same time offer definite advantages to the producers of tea. The tea companies are now assessed to income-tax on 25 per cent only of their total profits, the balance being regarded as agricultural income and therefore not liable to income-tax. The proportion of 25 per cent. was based on imperfect data and later enquiries show that the non-agricultural profits of the tea companies amount to at least 50 per cent. of the whole. The Government, therefore, propose that the export duty on tea should be abolished and that the tea companies should in future be assessed to income-tax at 50 per cent. of their total net income, subject to the proviso that where there is a market for green tea and the non-agricultural profits can be exactly ascertained, income-tax should be assessed on the total of such non-agricultural profits. The abolition of the export duty on tea costs us 50 lakhs. We expect to get an additional 45 lakhs from incometax on the non-agricultural profits in 1927-28 rising to 50 lakhs in 1928-29.

IMPORT DUTY ON MOTOR CARS, ETC.

40. The next proposal which the Government have to make is one which will, I hope, be universally popular. We propose that the import duty on motor cars should be reduced from 30 per cent. to 20 per cent. "ad valorem" and the import duty on tyres from 30 to 15 per cent. After making allowance for the stimulus to imports which this reduction of duty is expected to give, I estimate the cost of this proposal at 10 lakhs only. The reduction is in accordance with the views of the Taxation Enquiry Committee which rightly drew attention to the importance of encouraging the development of motor transport in India. Neither the Government nor, I think the House would feel perturbed if the Provincial Governments seized the opportunity of this reduction of the import duty to impose Provincial taxatios on the users of motor cars for the improvement and development of their system of road communication.

IMPOR DUTY ON RUBBER SEEDS, ETC.

There will be found included in the Finance Bill a provision for removing to the list of articles which can be imported free of duty rubber seeds and rubber stumps which are at present subject to a duty of 15 per cent. 'ad valorem.' The proceeds of this duty are inconsiderable but it is hampering an important adolescent industry in Burma, whose production promises to become an increasingly valuable item in our export trade. The Government of Burma have made a special representation to the Government of India in suport of this concession. We are very glad to be in a position to meet their wishes.

STAMP DUTY ON CHEQUES.

42. I have one more proposal to make for reduction of taxation. The Government have decided to accept the recommendation made independently in several quarters and endorsed by the Currency Commission that the stamp duty on cheques should be abolished. With a view to the development of the banking habit in India, we propose at the same time to abolish the duty on other Bills of Exchange payable on demand For the moment, we do not propose the abolition of the stamp duty on Bills of Exchange not payable on demand which requires further consideration and will involve a loss of about 26 lakhs of revenue. It will be desirable that the abolition of the stamp duty on cheques and other Bills of Exchange payable on demand should not come into force until the 1st of July next in order to give the banks time to make the necessary preparations. The cost of the abolition of the duty on cheques in a full year will be 7 lakhs but is estimated to amount for the nine months in 1927-28 to 5 lakhs only. This loss falls on the Provincial Governments but does not make any very material difference even to those Governments such as Bengal and Bombay, where the bulk of the duty is collected. In these circumstances, the Government do not think it necessary to compensate the Provincial Governments for the temporary loss of revenue involved, partly in view of the relief which will be given to those Governments in other directions, as the House will presently observe, and partly because we hope to be in a position a year hence to bring forward proposals for a division of the Stamps Head into Central and Provincial, coupled with a revision of the Devolution Rules which will fully make good to the Provinces what they will give up under the head 'Stamps.' The cost of abolishing the duty on other Bills of Exchange payable on demand will fall on Central Revennes, but will not be considerable, and I have felt it unnecessary to make any special provision for it.

In order partially to cover this loss, the Government propose to increase the import duty on unmanufactured tobacco from R1 to R1/8 per lb., an increase which is fully justified on statistical grounds and while giving some additional protection to Indian grown tobacco, will not materially affect the Indian cigarette industry which is now in a strong position. I expect to obtain 18 lakhs from this source.

NET EFFECT ON SURPLUS.

The net effect of these measures on our estimates for 1927-28 will be a reduction of 51 lakhs under the head 'Customs' and an increase of 45 lakhs from Taxes on Income, with the result that our surplus will then stand at 3.64 crores.

FINAL PROPOSALS.

Our surplus of 3.64 crores for 1927-28 can, I think, reasonably be regarded as a recurrent one. The year 1928-29 will no

(Continued on next page.)

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(Continued from previous page).

doubt present us with problems of its own with a further falling off in our Opium revenue and in our receipts from Railways, if the revised Railway estimate for the current year on which the contribution for 1928-29 will be based is not wide of the mark. Special provision will also be necessary in 1928-29 for the premium (which is really deferred interest) on the 5 1|2 per cent. bonds redeemable at 105 in 1928 in so far as these are not converted in advance of maturity. The inauguration of the Reserve Bank too may entail a temporary dimunition in our revenue in the first year or two of its existence. On the other hand, our Customs tariff should continue to show a progressively increasing yield and there is ample room for expansion in our income-tax receipts without any increase of rates, and our interest charges, apart from the special item mentioned, are likely to show a further appreciable shrinkage. We are not called upon to take special precautions against a bad monsoon in advance of that much-dreaded event.

PROVINCIAL CONTRIBUTONS.

The natural use of a recurring surplus is to reduce Provincial contributions. I propose,—and I am sure that the House will unanimously agree,—that our surplus should be devoted to a permanent reduction by 3 1|2 crores of the Provincial contributions distributed in strict accordance with the provisions of the existing Devolution Rules. This will leave only 1.05 crores of the contributions unremitted, excluding the Bengal contribution. Bengal is entitled to a share in the recurring remission of 3 1|2 crores to the extent of 9 lakhs, so that her contribution of 63 lakhs will be reduced to 54 lakhs. As, however, Bengal will not be paying any contribution during 1927-28, the actual cost to the Government of India of the permanent remission of 3 1|2 crores of the Provincial contributions will amount only to 3.41 crores in 1927-28.

Unfortunately, the amount of our surplus is not sufficient to enable us to make a clean sweep of all the Provincial contributions. It falls short of the amount required by 1.81 crores. It is an interesting coincidence that the deficiency is approximately equal to the amount of revenue sacrificed a year ago when the Cotton Excise Duty was remitted. Even more unfortunate is the fact that the permanent remission of 3 1|2 crores, while bringing welcome relief to every Province, leaves 37 lakhs out of Bombay's contribution of 56 lakhs still unliquidated. The Bombay Government's Budget is, I am sorry to say, in a very unsatisfactory state. Bombay is faced with a considerable realised deficit on the working of 1926-27 and is under the shadow of a further estimated deficit of 51 lakhs in 1927-28 on other than Development transactions, which will be reduced to 32 lakhs by the remission of 19 lakhs of her contribution, this being Bombay's share of the 3 1|2 crores. The Bombay Government have made a very strong appeal for help to the Government of India. It is needless for us to embark upon a critical examination of the causes of Bombay's difficulties. Even though we might be inclined not to acquit Bombay altogether of responsibility in the matter, we must, in fairness recognise that the existing Devolution Rule 15 regarding the grant to the Provinces of an interest in the proceeds of Taxes on Income which was designed for the benefit of Bombay and Bengal in particular, has altogether failed in its purpose. Any special claims Bengal might have urged in this connection have been liquidated by the relief already accorded; she has been relieved from 1922-23 onwards of the payment of any part of her annual contribution of 63 lakhs, a gift of the aggregate value of 3.15 crores up to 31st March, 1927. The only corresponding gift made to Bombay was a special non-recurring reduction of her contribution of 22 lakhs for the year 1925-26 only.

In these circumstances, the Government of India have been convinced that a very special effort ought to be made in 1927-28 on Bombay's behalf. We are equally convinced of the inexpediency of altering the existing Devolution Rule for the distribution of relief among the Provinces in a way which would help Bombay at the expense of other Provinces. Some other solution must be found and the Government of India propose to find it by having recourse to the realised surplus of 1926-27. This amounts, as I have already stated, to 3.10 crores. After careful consideration, we have decided that the best way out of our difficulty will be to use a part of this surplus for the purpose of remitting the whole of the remainder of the Provincial contributions for the year 1927-28. This procedure will permit us to meet Bombay's needs in full measure and enable her to balance her Budget for 1927-28 without in any way infringing the rights or arousing the resentment of any of the other Provinces. On the contrary, it will bring them additional and welcome relief. It will carry with it relief to all the Provinces from any liability to pay any contribution to the Central Government in 1927-28. I may add in order to make the story complete, that we propose also to relieve Coorg of her contribution of ₹12,000.

The following table shows the distribution of the recurring and the non-recurring remissions in the case of each Province:

(Lakhs.)

	Recurring remission.	Non-recurring. remission.
MADRAS ..	1,16	49
BOMBAY ..	19	37
BENGAL ..	9	54
UNITED PROV. ..	99	52
PUNJAB ..	60	26
BURMA ..	31	19
CENTRAL PROV. ..	8	14
ASSAM ..	8	7
Total ..	3,50	2,58

SPECIAL RELIEF TO BOMBAY.

These measures will exhaust the surplus in the Central Government's Budget for 1927-28 and reduce to 1.29 crores the estimated surplus in the revised Budget of 1926-27. The proposals so far made regarding the Provincial contributions, while fully meeting Bombay's needs for 1927-28, do nothing to make up to her for the disappointment of her expectations regarding a share in the proceeds of Taxes on Income under Devolution Rule 15 in the past year. In order that the Bombay Government may not feel that we are deaf to her claims on this account, we propose further that a sum of 28 lakhs out of the still remaining surplus for 1926-27 should be devoted to relieving Bombay of one-half of her contribution of 56 lakhs for the current year. We propose to couple this special concession with the condition that her Budget for 1927-28 shall show a balance on the right side. I am glad to know from the figures of the Bombay Budget presented in the Bombay Legislative Council last week, that there is every prospect of this condition being satisfied.

There remains a sum of 1.01 crores still left unallocated out of the realised surplus of 1926-27. I have already observed that the inauguration of the Reserve Bank in 1928-29 may cause some temporary diminution of the Central Government's revenue. It would be undesirable, if we can avoid it, to make any special call on the taxpayer for the purpose of tiding over temporary Budget difficulties connected with the financing of the new Gold Bullion Standard and Reserve Bank. The Government accordingly propose to utilise the remainder of the realised surplus of 1926-27 as a nest egg either for the purpose of relieving the Budgets of 1928-29 and 1929-30 of temporary charges incident to the inauguration of the new currency system or for the purpose of increasing the strength of the reserves to be handed over to the Reserve Bank as cover for the note-issue or for both purposes, according as circumstances dictate.

REVENUE RESERVE.

The procedure which we propose is to open a special Deposit Account and pay into it the whole of the realised surplus for 1926-27. In the estimated receipts for 1927-28, there would be included a payment from this Account to revenue of the sum required to balance revenue and expenditure in 1927-28, on present figures 1.81 crores. The amount finally credited to revenue in 1927-28 would, however, be not this exact amount but such sum as may ultimately prove necessary in order to bridge whatever the final gap may be between the expenditure for the year and the ordinary revenue, apart from this assistance from the special reserve. In order that this may be done, the Government propose to present to the House, at the time when the Finance Bill is taken into consideration, a special supplementary estimate covering the transfer to the special reserve of the surplus of 1926-27.

I desire to emphasise clearly the fact that the non-recurrent remission of the Provincial contribution must be regarded as definitely temporary, so that if a recurring surplus is not available a year hence sufficient to enable us to make this remission permanent, it will be necessary either to restore the temporarily remitted contributions wholly or in part or else to propose fresh taxation.

The House will recognise that even though the Government are formally safeguarded against the accusation of counting unhatched chickens by the provision that the final portion of the Provincial contributions is remitted for one year only, they are clearly taking the risk that if the monsoon of 1927 is specially unfavourable, both the Government and the House, and in a special degree the Finance Member, will be faced next year with difficulties which will in a measure be self-imposed.

Our Proposals are also open to another objection which I should be the last to minimise. They involve a diversion of the realised surplus of 1926-27 from its proper application to the reduction or avoidance of debt. The House will, I am sure, do me the justice of recognising that I have not been backward in insisting on the virtues of strictness and purism in the matter of debt redemption. My defence for this lapse from virtue must be that the complete liquidation of our liabilities to the Provinces in respect of Provincial contributions is a very big prize, justifying a very special effort, and that a succession of realised surpluses has enabled us to outdistance our own fixed programme of debt redemption in the last few years, and that the fixed programme remains unmodified and involves us in any case in a charge of 5.12 crores for reduction or avoidance of debt in 1927-28. We can, I think, justifiably make this concession without denying our principles, in order to secure the advantages for India, economic and social, and the stimulus to the successful working of the Reforms, which will flow from the release of 5.45 crores of revenue to the Provinces for expenditure on those nation-building services which all true friends of India and of the Reforms have so deeply at heart.

Finally we should not be unmindful of the fact that so long as Provincial contributions remained unliquidated, the occurrence of a bad monsoon, which would affect Provincial finances more directly and more severely than Central finances, would make the position of the Central Government an uneasy one in the face of demands from the Provinces for assistance from the Central Budget, a state of affairs which will be fundamentally changed once we have ceased to exact any contributions. From the standpoint of our Ways and Means Budget, the complete release of the Provincial contributions makes less difference than might at first sight be expected. It is improbable that the Provinces will find it expedient to embark immediately on heavy additional expenditure, as time will be required for working out plans and programmes. Indeed, so far as the year 1927-28 is concerned, I anticipate that the surplus of 1926-27 will, in effect, remain in our balances and be available temporarily for the avoidance of debt, so that the amount of new money which we shall ask from the market, when we issue our Rupee Loan in the summer, will not be increased as a result of these proposlas.

Let me sum up the Government's plans for dealing with the surpluses of 1926-27 and 1927-28. The current year's surplus of 3.10 crores will be reduced to 2.82 crores by the special remission of 28 lakhs of the Bombay Government's contribution for 1926-27. This sum of 2.82 crores will be transferred in its entirety to a special reserve so that the revised estimate for the current year will not exhibit either a revenue surplus or a deficit. The next year's surplus of 3.64 crores will be supplemented by such sum at present estimated at 1.81 crores, as may be required to be transferred from the special reserve in order that the outturn of the year 1927-28 may also show neither a deficit

NOT A POOR MAN'S BUDGET.

Sir Basil Blackett's budget is not a poor man's budget. While the duty on motor cars and tyres is reduced, the stamp duty on cheques and bills of exchange payable on demand, the export duties on hides and on tea are abolished, there is no reduction in salt duty and the poor have still to pay 1|2 anna for the post card.

nor a surplus. The credit balance in the special reserve at the close of 1927-28, at present estimated at 1.01 crores, will be kept in hand as a nest egg for use in connection with the inauguration of the new Gold Bullion Standard and Reserve Bank.

CONCLUSION.

Each of the three Budgets laid before the Second Assembly was not only balanced at the time of its introduction but has presented India with an appreciable realised surplus of revenue over expenditure. The necessity of reducing the salt tax from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 1-4 per maund in the Budget of 1924-25 postponed the beginning of the remission of the Provincial contributions. The Budgets for 1925-26 and 1926-27, relieved finally of the uncertainties of Railway Finance by the separation of the Railway Budget from the General Budget, effected a reduction in the Provincial contributions amounting to 3.75 crores or, if the Bengal contribution be included, and a reduction from 9.83 crores by 4.38 crores to 5.45 crores. In addition, the Budget for 1926-27 signalised the demise of the unlamented Cotton Excise Duty. In its first Budget, this new Assembly has before it proposals for the complete extinction, at any rate so far as the year 1927-28 is concerned, of the Provincial contributions.

I account it a great stroke of good fortune for myself and a happy augury for the financial work of the new Assembly that its first Budget should be the first since the Reforms in which our revenues are independent of assistance from the provincial tax-payer. Ever since the Reforms were inaugurated, the Provincial contributions have been a mill-stone round the neck both of the Central Government and of the Provincial Governments, poisoning their mutual relations and hampering their every action. Their quality, even more that their amount, has strained the resources of the giver and the patience of the recipient. They have brought curses, not blessings, both to him who has given and to him who has taken. The year 1927-28 sets India free from this incubus.

It is true that final and complete freedom has still to be won and that we are still relying on the Budget of 1928-29 to consolidate the ground now occupied. The year before us must be devoted to a further and final effort to this end. But meanwhile the Provincial Governments will have at their immediate disposal large additional resources and they can turn confidently to the work of framing projects for the advancement of the well-being of their citizens. Governments and, in particular, Finance Departments and even Finance Members, are often taunted with being heartless and inhuman, and it is doubtless difficult, and occasionally dangerous, to wax sentimental over figures. There is nothing to capture the imagination or stir the emotions in the figure of 5.45 crores. But what romance lies behind this figure when it is translated into spending capacity in the hands of the Ministers in the Provinces! It is always wise, when discussing figures and accounts, to remember that money represents nothing more than a power to command goods and services. The programme of educational expenditure in the territories directly administred by the Government of India, to which I referred earlier in my speech, involves over a period of 5 years a total expenditure, recurring and non-recurring, of 68 lakhs. In addition o improved accommodation and a higher standard of teaching for hundreds of existing schools and thousands of existing scholars, these 68 lakhs represent something like 600 new schools and 30,000 children brought within reach, for the first time, of the privileges of education year by year. What will 5.45 crores a year transfigured into goods and services, available year by year in the hands of the Provincial Governments, mean in the promotion of human happiness, in the prevention of preventable disease and ignorance, in the widening of the opportunities for a good life for many crores of people of India! It is in the belief that by the acceptance of this Budget, Members of this House have it in their power to promote the health and happiness of millions of the masses of India that I commend the Government's proposals to the House and the country.

Statement comparing the actual Revenue and Expenditure of the Central Government (Imperial Revenue and Expenditure before the Reforms) with the Revised Estimates for each year from 1916-17 to 1925-26.

(In thousands of Rupees)

	Revised Estimate.			Actuals		
	Revenue.	Expenditure	Surplus(+) Deficit (—)	Revenue	Expenditure	Surplus (+) Deficit(—)
1916-17	97,25,67	88,27,38	+8,98,30	98,53,10	87,31,37	+ 11,21 73
1917-18	1,14,84,48	1,06,27,74	+8,56,74	1,18,70,58	1,06,57,52	+ 12,13,06
1918-19	1,27,94,65	1,34,79,88	—6,85,23	1,30,40,66	1,36,13,72	—5,73,06
1919-20	1,44,07,56	1,59,18,67	—15,11,11	1,37,13,98	1,60,79,27	—23,65,29
1920-21	1,35,10,35	1,48,03,61	—12,93,26	1,35,63,32	1,61,64,17	—26,00,85
1921-22	1,13,15,32	1,41,94,52	—28,79,20	1,15,21,50	1,42,86,52	—27,65,02
1922-23	1,20,70,17	1,37,95,52	—17,25,35	1,21,41,29	1,36,43,05	—15,01,76
1923-24	1,31,96,04	1,29,89,97	+ 2,06, 07	1,33,16,63	1,30,77,63	+2,,39,00
1924-25	1,34,82,26	1,30,82,68	×3,99,58	1,38,03,92	1,32,35,66	+5,68,26
1925-26	1,31,35,25	1,30,04,87	+1,30,38	1,33,32,98	1,30,01,80	+3,31, 18

BAZAR RUMOURS FALSIFIED.

There were rumours in the city to-day that here would be an import duty on silver and hat there would be no issue of new loans.

As a result of these rumours there was a decline in the price of silver and in the Security market there was a rise.

There were also strong rumours that Government would establish a Custom line at Viramgam to checkmate the growing trade of Kathiawar Ports

These rumours have been practically falsified.

There is no proposal for import duty on silver.

There is no mention about Viramgam Customs line.

THE HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

(Contined from page 8.)

charged." It must not be inferred that we assail the practice described as above—we are just describing it as it appears in fact to the observer. The judicial clerk is generally a man of long experience in the courts, well up in legal rulings, rules and precedents, and his honesty is beyond question—but for him at their elbow, the bench would be completely at sea in discharging its functions.

HEAVY PENALTIES.

The chief ground of complaint against the honorary bench from the litigant public is the unhappy practice of imposing heavy penalties. The fact cannot be unduly stressed that the economic position of the people has been steadily deteriorating and their capacity to pay up is being restricted; thus the imposition of heavy fines is inequitable. Gharrywallas generally get no quarter from the honorary bench but the present-day plight of this class is miserable—a large number has been crushed out of existence by bus competition and the survivors are pledged to the eyebrows, man, horse and vehicle, to the sowcar—so that the poor devil cannot call his soul his own; a heavy fine is just the last straw that breaks his back. Recently, the Chief Presidency Magistrate directed that certain types of cases usually tried by the stipendiary magistrates, should be transferred to the province of the honorary bench and the public have seen the result of the change where a stipendiary magistrate would impose a modest fine of ₹5, his honorary brother is satisfied with nothing less than ₹15 or ₹20 or ₹25. We do not mean that the honorary bench is wantonly vindictive—but it has not acquired that sense of visualising a case in its proper perspective so as to fix a penalty commensurate with the gravity of the offence. It must, however, be affirmed that a number of magistrates—and this number is on the increase fortunately—have taken kindly to the work and its atmosphere; but there is a perverse class who have got an "idee fixee" that they are put up on the bench only to convict, fine and bind over and send to the common prison everybody from A. to Z.—and this is precisely tha type of magistrate who loftily disdain the inspiration from the judicial clerk.

INDULGENT TO THE POLICE.

The public strongly suspects that most of the honorary magistrates are indulgent to the police—this may be inevitable under a system which makes the Police Commissioner the practical arbiter of a magistrate's destiny, but the evil is there, nevertheless. The ordinary police constable gets no sympathy or encouragement from the honorary bench who greet his evidence with a scowl and a frown—but let a superior officer enter the box:—sergeant, sub-inspector and so on—the accused is done for. "This man, Sir" says the officer pointing an accusing finger to the accused "is a very bad man, every night he gives trouble at Grant Road station." The blow falls and a good fine is imposed. The most astonishing feature is that when a police officer jumps up with "I beg to press the case, Sir" his word is accepted as gospel-truth. He is never questioned as to why he elects to press this case of all cases, whether there is any aggravating circumstance or he has been instructed by his superior officer to press for a severe sentence—his word or his whim is the law divine; sometimes, but very rarely when he is asked to assign a reason for being vindictive, he answers in a stereotyped fashion according to formula that such cases are getting too frequent. Undoubtedly, all petty crime, is frequent and if this show of reason is convincing, our jails should contain the whole population.

Among the ranks of the honorary magistrates, a sufficient number of Europeans is also enrolled; of them, it may be predicated that they suffer from the twin diseases of truckling to the police and overfondness for fining; and a shrewd litigant who knows the "hang" of the courts is a wise man, indeed, when he applies for a postponement on the day when the "sahebs" are sitting. The work of the honorary benchers has come in of late for high praise in distinguished circles, notably from His Excellency the Governor and the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court. It is but fair to state that they are a body of men who are worthy of any encomium bestowed upon them for attending to duties in the public interest, at personal inconvenience and without any remuneration. With the acquisition of the essential qualities of judicial independence and judicial honesty, the public confidence in them will be increased and augmented.

UNIQUE HONOUR TO COMRADE "SAK" !

(Continued from page 10.)

they were only for the uplift of the poor and not for revolution.

Sir Dinshaw M. Petit opposed the resolution and said to vote an address for Mr. Saklavala was to vote an address for Communism. If he was for the uplifting of the Labour, he asked, why the Labour Party did not own him.

Mr. Tairsee:—Because the Labour Party cannot digest him.

Sir D. M. Petit:—He is much indigestible indeed.

Continuing Sir D. M. Petit challenged that he would get requisition not of 600 but more than that number to vote an address for anybody including Babu Chasmawalla (Laughter). He considered it a insult to compare Mr. Saklatvala with Dadabhoy Nowroji or Sir M. Bhownagri and warned Mr. Hornitman that if he believed in Communism he would have to come to the Corporation Hall barefooted, and without a coat and necktie. (Laughter).

DROP THE MATTER.

Mr. L. R. Tairsee was surprised to see the presence of the councillors in such a large number which he said he did not see even at the budget discussion involving Rs. 3 crores. He had associated with Mr. Saklatvala for the last 20 years and was the first to arrange a tea, party in his honour when he came to Bombay because he looked upon him with admiration and respect. He had, however, come to the conclusion in matter of voting an address that it was not the question of merit but only of the strength of the party. If one party was stronger than the other it carried the day. They had voted addresses for insignificant incoming Viceroys and Governors who became prominent as soon as they approached Aden and he failed to see why an address should not be given to Mr. Saklatwalla. Seeing, however, the turn the question had taken in the discussion he advised the House to drop the matter in the interests of peace and harmony.

Mr. J. B. Boman Behram who had reserved his remarks in seconding the motion then said he was not in agreement with the Communists' views but he considered Mr. Saklatwalla as a great Indian and such he seconded the resolution.

The question being put to the vote was lost 29 voting for it and 43 against it by show of hands; when it was taken to a division 31 voted for it and 47 against it. It was, therefore, declared lost. The following councillors did not vote: (1) Mr. L. R. Tairsee (2) Dr. A. G. Viegas and (3) Mr. J. B. Boman Behram. (4) Dr. D. B. Master; and (5) Mr. V. N. Chandavarker.

AYES.

The following Councillors voted for the resolution: (1) Dr. A. G. Merchant; (2) Mrs. Avantikabai Gokhalay; (3) Mr. B. T. Desai; (4) Mr. B. N. Motiwalla; (5) Mr. E. R. Hirjibehdin; (6) Mr. G. R. Nare; (7) Dr. G. V. Deshmukh; (8) Mr. H. A. Laljee; (9) Mr. B. G. Horniman; (10) Dr. J. N. Choksey; (11) Dr. J. V. Vora; (12) Mr. Pothan Joseph; (13) Mr. Kanji M. Master; (14) Dr. K. E. Dadachanji; (15) Mr. K. F. Nariman; (16) Dr. Khurshed J. J. Cursetji; (17) Mr. K. M. Ramji; (18) Dr. M. N. Balsara; (19) Mr. M. M. Desai; (20) Dr. M. B. Velkar; (21) Mr. Nanbhoy Laxmon; (22) Dr. N. D. Savarker; (23) Mr. P. G. Shahasrabudhe; (24) Dr. P. H. Meisheri; (25) Mr. R. K. Vaidya; (26) Mr. R. A. Gole; (27) Mr. S. L. Silam; (28) Mr. S. K. Pupala; (29) Mr. Shivdas C. Thakkar; (30) Mr. Virchand P. Shah; (31) Mr. Y. G. Pandit.

NOES.

(1) Mr. A. R. Dimtimkar; (2) Mr. A. R. A. Begmahomed; (3) Rao Bahadur A. K. Pai; (4) C. W. E. Arbuthnot; (5) Mr. J. C. Badham; (6) Mr. B. N. Gamadia; (7) Mr. B. G. Parelkar; (8) Mr. Byramji Jeejeebhoy; (9) Mr. H. J. Davis; (10) Sir Carrimbhoy Ebrahim; (11) Sir D. M. Petit; (12) Mr. D. G. Dalvi; (13) Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtoola; (14) Mr. G. K. Borade; (15) Mr. G. D. Billimoria; (16) Mr. W. H. Hammond; (17) Dr. A. F. Henriques; (18) Mr. H. M. Chowna; (19) Mr. H. P. Mody; (20) Mr. Ishwardas Luxmidas; (21) Mr. J. B. Petit; (22) Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas; (23) Khan Saheb Karmani Ebrahim; (24) Mr. P. A. Kelly; (25) Rao Saheb M. D. Rane; (26) Mr. M. A. Dabholkar; (27) Mrs. A. F. Mackenzie; (28) Dr. M. F. Bisni; (29) Mr. M. A. Khan; (30) Khan Saheb M. I. Kurtay; (31) Mr. Mohamedally Allabux; (32) Dr. M. C. Javle; (33) Dr. E. Moses; (34) Mr. N. M. Dumasia; (35) Mr. W. H. Neilson; (36) Mr. Meyer Nissim; (37) Mr. F. W. Petch; (38) Mr. P. J. Murzban; (39) the Honourable Sir P. C. Sethna; (40) Dr. R. M. Mistry; (41) Mr. R. K. Pirbhai; (42) Mr. R. S. Nekaljoy; (43) Mr. S. K. Barodawalla; (44) Mr. S. A. Mantri; (45) Dr. S. S. Batliwalla; (46) Dr. S. P. Mehta and (47) Sir V. A. Dabholkar.

HIGH COURT.

LANGLEY-D'ARCY CASE

FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION OF PLAINTIFF

The cross-examination of Mr. Langley was resumed yesterday afternoon in the Turf Libel Case before Mr. Justice Kemp at the High Court.

The witness, in reply to Sir Thomas Strangman, said that he did not definitely tell Captain D'Arcy before leaving for England that he was to tell Mr. Shantidas if a horse was likely to win. He had also mentioned this in his letter dated September 16, 1925.

Your instructions to the defendants were such that he was unlikely to win with the majority of the horses at Poona?—Yes.

Your instructions were to keep them for Bombay?—Not keep them, but train them for Bombay.

Further questioned, witness said that he would be glad if the public had a bad opinion of the horses because if the public lost, he would get a better price. He might have read the report of the Small Causes Court proceedings published in the "Times of India." His solicitors wrote a letter to the paper, on instructions from the plaintiff who thought that he was libelled.

Why?—The public knew about the libel.

I take it that you wrote to the paper because the report was already.

INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT HORSES.

If Golden Hours ran in the Warwick Plate, it was not likely that she would show up?—It was unlikely.

Because if she had "shown up" the public would have a good impression?—Yes.

That was against your policy?—Yes, unless it was properly trained.

Proceeding, witness said that the best distance for Wilmington was 1 1|4 to 1 1|2 mile, and it was extremely unlikely that he would win in 6 or 7 furlongs From the point of view of merely training him for Bombay it was safe to put him in 6 or 7 furlongs race. In such a race he would not be likely to "show up" or to "come to light." For the Arabs San Fly and Double Up two races were suggested. They were either second division, or first and second divisions. Witness' desire was that they should not win in the second division till they ran in Bombay. He had instructed Captain D'Arcy to be very careful with Double Up, because he was a very delicate horse.

He should be very careful with Double Up, lest he should win?—No.

When you said "he needs little or no work" did you not mean it needed no training?—No. It doesn't mean that.

You didn't want the horse to be wound up until he was intended to win?—Yes. That's right.

If he was not put in second division at Poona, then he was to win in the third division?—Yes.

If he won in the third division and thus got into the second division, he was to be treated as if he was put in the second division in the first instance?—No.

You say with regard to Double Up, "Then stop". It means stop winning?—No. Stop running.

Regarding the Arabs, you asked D'Arcy not to take unnnecessary risks? What was the risk?—The risk of their legs.

The hearing was adjourned.

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FAMINE IN NAVALGUND TALUKA.

WANTED REMISSION AND RELIEF.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

DHARWAR, February 23.

Navalgund, including Naragund petha contains about 93 villages. The climate is very dry and the lands are rich and fertile. The people here are mostly agriculturists. Some ten years before Navalgund and Naragund had big markets for cotton, wheat, jwar and oil seeds. But owing to scarcity of rains during the last ten years the markets are almost closed. People outside are forgetting even the names of these important trade-centres During the last three or four years especially there has been regular famine in the Taluka. Some of the villages have not even one anna crop.

VISIBLE SIGNS OF FAMINE.

Depopulation, indebtedness, non-cultivation of lands for want of bullocks and in some cases even seed, low price of lands are seen wherever you go in the Taluka. Even in the harvesting season a number of people go outside generally to Malanad talukas. They cannot stand the malarious climate of the Malanad; therefore these sturdy people have to return to their places importing malaria with them. Every big village in the Taluka has got a Co-operative Society. But these co-operative societies have loaned their capital to the last pie with a little hope of its recovery in the near future. So in these distressing times people cannot get any help from these societies and owing to the wooden system of the British administration they cannot get Takkavi because they have societies. Since the introduction of the Agriculturists Relief Act and the advent of the Co-operative movement, the class of Savakars—moneylenders—has almost disappeared. One can imagine the condition of the helpless rayat in these days! The abnormal low price of lands is also a very clear proof of regular famine in this part. And even at this low price there are no bidders. This richest agricultural Taluka in the district has not sufficient cattle even for agricultural purposes. The scarcity of water is indescribable. The people in this part have to depend on tanks for water, these tanks in return have to depend upon rains. This is just the beginning of summer, but most of the tanks are seen dry. People have, therefore, to go for water to a distance varying from one to three miles. The morning has necessarily to be spent to secure water one of the elements essential to life.

VALUATION OF CROPS.

This year a committee has been appointed for each village to value the crops. This committee consists of the Circle Inspector, the two village officers and two leading rayats selected by the former. There is no element of popular representation. But the Mamalatdar and the D. D. C. do not depend upon the calculations made by their own men. "The man-on-the-spot" theory the usual plank of Government is conveniently brushed aside. And in this famine stricken Taluka with a land revenue of 4·5 lacs, a huge sum of Rs. 15,000 is reported to have been recommended for remission.

In these circumstances it is necessary that Government should be moved to appoint a committee to enquire into the conditions of the rayats in this taluka and in Gadaga and Ron talukas which are also partially affected and take immediate measures to give relief to the rayats. Suspension of revenue will bring no relief to those who are regularly suffering from the effects of famine. Remission on a liberal scale and relief works are the only measures that can keep the rayats alive. Permanent measures to irrigate the tract are also very essential. But it is a matter for experts to suggest the exact ways. The Government however cannot shirk the responsibility on any ground.

DHOLKA TALUKA'S AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

A REJOINDER TO OFFICIAL VERSION.

Mr. Dayabhai M. Patel, Secretary, Dholka Taluka Congress Committee, and Secretary, Dholka Taluka Khedut Mandal, writes:—

"The report of the Government's view of agricultural situation in the Bombay Presidency is published lately in the papers. In the statement of the conditions of the Ahmedabad District, there is one remark as under:—

"The President of the District Local Board reports that there is no distress in the Dholka Taluka to justfy the opening of a famine relief work there."

I do not understand on what grounds a responsible man like the President of the Ahmedabad Dist. Local Board dares to report like this. As far as I know either the President or the Dist. Local Board, or the Taluka Local Board has made no tour in this Taluka nor has taken the troubles of investigating personally into this matter.

I as the Secretary of Dholka Taluka Khedut Mandal has toured to examine the conditions of the peasants of this Taluka more than once and can say without any hesitation that there is distress in this Taluka to justify the opening of a famine relief work. If the President goes and tours in this Taluka with him, he can be assured that hundreds of poor cultivators who are half-starving need labour of some kind to maintain themselves and their families at present. As in Dhandhuka Taluka the poor peasants are feeding themselves on one kind of grass called "Damro" So in this Taluka also, I have seen with my own eyes many of the poor sufferers feeding themselves and their families on a kind of "Theg" which is partly mixed with dust and if they take regularly this for three months, they are sure to fall victims to a fatal disease.

These are the true facts. I therefore request the President to make tour in this affected area, viz. Bhal Tract and Nalkhantha in the interests of the poor Khedats, and I am sure he will be able to see the things in their true light.

The people in and surrounding Nani Boru are in a very beggarly condition, and they require great help even to sustain their maintenance. In spite of such a heavy rain in the last monsoon, there is no water in the Tank of Nani Baru. It is the primary duty of the Local Boards to make provision for water. If such famine-stricken persons be employed for such work, it will serve double purpose.

I emphasise that the people in the said affected area are in a very deplorable condition, and the public should take up their cause in right earnest."

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief unveiled at Roorkee on Saturday the War Memorial of the Bengal Sappers and Miners. The ceremony was very impressive as there were present veterans from all parts of the country. They included at least one who had fought in the Mutiny. In the evening, there was a Torchlight Tatoo in which the principal event was the representation of the capture of the tower of Ghusnee from the Afghans in 1839.—A. P.

The Vernacular Development Committee appointed by the Government of Bihar and Orissa has reached a number of preliminary conclusions. These include recommendations for the creation of a Bureau of Translation with a view to evolving a common language that should be understood by non-Hindi and Urdu speaking people.

WORLD'S WONDER SHOW.

IRVING'S MIDGETS.

Know the difference between a midget and a dwarf? A midget, explains Irving Tishman, Manager of Irving's Midgets, who has just arrived in Bombay "is a little being perfectly proportioned, that has failed to grow up." In short a miniature of the average man or woman. On the other hand, a dwarf suggests something out of proportion usually the head or body.

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WHY SUCH TRUNKS?

In moving in here, remarks Mr. Tishman we brought our wardrobe trunks with us. They are 4 1/2 feet high. The Manager of the hotel was astounded. He said that never before had he seen so many trunks or of such a size. What, he asked are they for? Do the Midgets sleep in them? He was invited into the rooms to see some of them opened. Each of the Midgets has six or seven suits of clothes and five or six pairs of shoes.

UNIQUE STAGE TREAT.

In name and reality they are the World's Wonder Show Stage entertainment of practically every form is provided in the shape of a revue—The Tiny Town Revue. Songs and dances, selections on musical instruments, drama and pantomime, wrestling and acrobatics and marches and choruses. Other features include some boxing displays that never fail to bring down the house.

In addition to the Midgets the programme will include Chefalo and Madame palermo with their respective companies in elaborate presentations sleight of hand conjuring and magic of a totally different character.

"HER NIGHT OF ROMANCE"

Constance, as flippant and scintillating as ever, appears in the role of an American heiress who dons school teacher's "specs" and stright-laced demien in order to avoid fortune hunters while touring abroad with her father. It chances that she bumps into a young English lord in London who is being hounded by his money-lender and they become involved in one of those seemingly impossible but, nevertheless, real life situations where it is necessary for them to pose as newly-weds to avoid an impending scandal.

The situation finally clarifies itself, of course, but not before the young couple endure an amazing and highly amusing series of incidents. "Her Night of Romance" will remain at the Royal Opera House for one week.

SPINNERS CLUB, MATUNGA.

"The Spinners Club, Matunga" was opened on Sunday morning at Visram Building, Matunga (G. I. P.). There at the appointed hour, and that declared the Club open without any speech being made as in other similar instances. The significant feature of this function is the demonstration of the faith of the public in the cult of the Spinning wheel and khaddar, so ably advocated by Mahatma Gandhi, almost immediately after the scathing denunciation of the movement by Mr. Saklatwala M. P. in this city.

Great enthusiasm prevailed. About 35 members were enlisted on the spot including about half a dozen ladies. Seth Velji Lakhamsey Nappoo was unanimously elected President.

Any person who contributes 1,000 yards of yarn of his or her own spinning and who habitually wears khaddar is eligible for membership. Such members would also be members of the All-India Spinners Association. Provision is also made in the constitution of the Club for those who contribute the requisite quantity of 1,000 yards of Self-Spun Yarn, but who are not habitual wearers of khaddar, to become members and they will be classed as "B" class members. The object of the Club is the propaga-

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